DH
DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Abhishek–Rahul meet fuels merger rumours

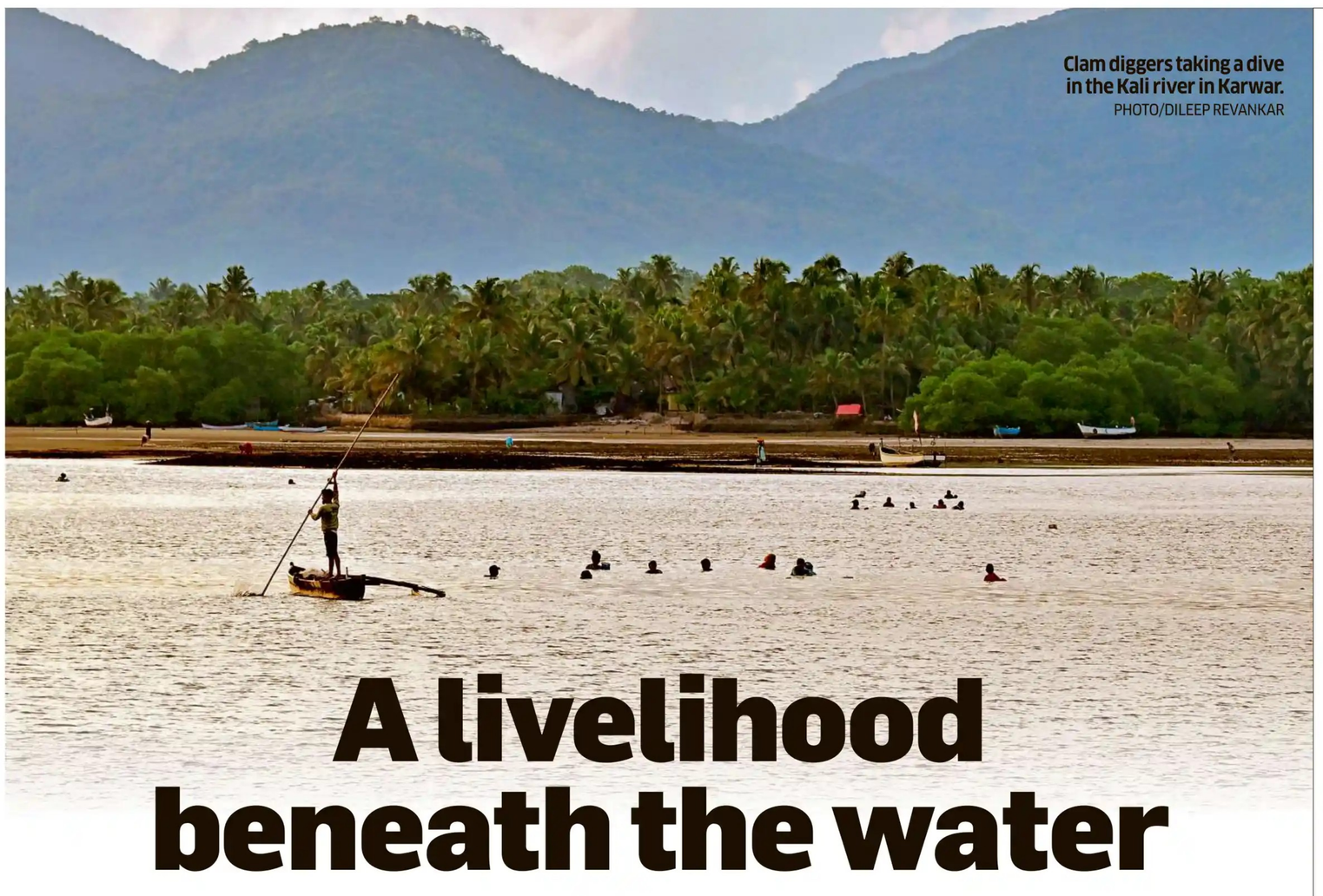
Congress, TMC dismiss speculations

Page 9

Stokes dropped over nightclub incident

Page 12

RENAULT KIGER
discovery days
01-15 june
RE-021-LT
discover more
0% rate of interest*
enhanced X-tronic CVT
multi-sense drive modes
ventilated leatherette seats
*0% rate of interest is offered only for a 24-months tenure on select variants and specific loan amounts. **the effective interest rate for the scheme is 0.01% p.a., which is rounded to zero for promotional display purposes.** loan approval, amount, tenure & eligibility are subject to the sole discretion of Nissan Renault Financial Services India Private Limited (NRFSI). visit: https://www.nrfsi.com/ for processing fees & other applicable charges. customers are advised to verify the total cost of the loan & the APR in the Key Fact Statement issued by NRFSI before availing the offer. the offer is valid only for applications submitted between 1st June-15th June 2026 subject to retails on or before 30th June 2026 & may be modified or withdrawn without prior notice. Renault vehicles now come with a standard warranty of 3 years or 100 000 kms, whichever is earlier. the price/features mentioned in this advertisement may vary depending on the model/variant and features in the car. features depicted in the advertisement may vary based on the model and variant of choice. corporate / PSU / defence personnel / government employee / professional benefits applicable on each model are based on customer eligibility and submission of required proof. price valid on the date of purchase. for detailed terms and conditions, please visit renault.co.in
Renault recommends Castrol
renault.co.in
SHOWROOMS: KARNATAKA: BENGALURU: RENAULT **BANNERGHATTA ROAD** Ph: 9289220872, RENAULT **MYSORE ROAD** Ph: 8527240549, RENAULT **SILK BOARD** Ph: 8527240654, RENAULT **WHITEFIELD** Ph: 8527240685, RENAULT **JP NAGAR** Ph: 8527240626, RENAULT **KALYAN NAGAR** Ph: 8527236137 & 8722866664, RENAULT **SARJAPURA** Ph: 8448481374, 8746811000 & 8496915111, RENAULT **YELAHANKA** Ph: 8527234592, RENAULT **YESWANTHPUR** Ph: 9311832962. RENAULT **TUMKUR** Ph: 8527234251.



Clam diggers taking a dive in the Kali river in Karwar. PHOTO/DILEEP REVANKAR

A livelihood beneath the water

In the estuaries of Uttara Kannada, harvesting clams remains a vital but increasingly uncertain livelihood, writes Ganapati Hegde

As one crosses the Kali bridge in Karwar between February and June, the sight of people repeatedly diving into the river is hard to miss. Carrying baskets in their hands, they disappear beneath the water and resurface moments later.

Beneath the surface lies a source of livelihood for scores of families who depend on its aquatic resources.

As we moved closer, Nagaveni Sarang, Deepa Metha, Nagendra Giraf, Pandarinath Sarang and several others emerged from the knee-deep waters, their clothes drenched after hours of work. Nearby, a wooden boat reached the shore carrying several baskets filled with clams. Two more boats laden with similar loads were moored close by.

Clams harvested by diggers in the Aghanashini estuary. PHOTO/M G NAIK

"We wait for the tide to recede and for the river current to slow down. Such opportunities come only a few times a day. During those two or three hours, we dive for clams. We then sell them to traders and take some home for cooking," said Nagaveni.

Women play a central role in clam harvesting. They collect, clean, sort and prepare the clams for sale.

A coastal livelihood

Diving into estuaries to collect shellfish (clam or bivalves) is common in the coastal districts, particularly in the estuaries of the Kali, Aghanashini, Sharavathi, Gangavali and Venkatapur rivers. For hundreds of fishing families in Sunkeri, Nandangadda, Kodibag and Alvewada within Karwar city limits, it is an important source of livelihood. In villages along the Aghanashini river in Kumta taluk, such as Deevgi, Mankon, Mirjan, Musuguppa and Hondadakkal, it provides supplementary income alongside fishing.

Along Karnataka's coast, clams occupy an important place in local cuisine. Known as *tisre* in the Karwar region and *belachu* in parts of Kumta, they are commonly prepared as curry, *sukka* (a dry preparation) or cooked with Malabar spinach (*basale*) during the monsoon season. Dishes made using clams from the Kali river are in demand not only in Karwar but also in neighbouring Goa. The steady demand for these dishes keeps many families engaged in clam harvesting despite the risks involved.

Demanding work

Harvesters enter the water during low tide, when the sea recedes and the river flow is at its weakest. They search for clams buried beneath mudflats and sand, using their bare hands. At times, they hold their breath and dive only to return empty-handed. Experienced collectors rely on subtle clues such as water colour, the direction of the current and the nature of the riverbed to identify productive locations.

"Hard work by two people for three hours in the river can yield around 60 to 70 kg of clams," said Santosh Gowda of Deevgi. He added that demand for clams generally increases during the seasons of fishing ban and during May-June when fish catches are low. "In the market, a pile of 100 shellfish is sold at around Rs 150 while the clamdiggers get around Rs 100."

If harvesting is difficult, selling the catch can sometimes be even tougher.

"Traders waiting near the riverbank buy clams from us at low prices and sell them at much higher rates in the market," said Madevi Harikantra from the Aghanashini estuary. "We take the risks and do the hard work, but when money is urgently needed, we often have no choice but to accept the price they offer."

Uncertain future

Clam collectors are increasingly worried about their future. Usually, shellfish that emerge in shallow river stretches around November reach full growth by May. In recent years, however, concerns have grown over declining populations.

"Years ago, black shellfish were available in large numbers around Shiraganji close to Ankola," said Lakshmi Gowda. "Now their population has declined, forcing us to travel farther to collect them."

According to N M Guruprasad, who has researched shellfish, dams and the resulting changes in river flow have contributed to a decline in clam populations in the Kali and Sharavathi estuaries of Uttara Kannada district. He believes their numbers can recover only if the rivers' natural flow is restored.

Experts also point to sand extraction and excessive harvesting as factors affecting clam populations. The decline is becoming visible across several parts of Uttara Kannada district, affecting communities that depend on clam harvesting for their livelihood.

Marine biologist Shivakumar Haragi believes conservation measures are necessary to prevent further decline.

"Everyone should release smaller shellfish back into the water," he said. "Otherwise, their population may decline further in the coming years."

Haragi adds that shellfish is a nutritious food source and plays an important ecological role by filtering impurities from the water and helping improve water quality.

However, he cautions that shellfish harvested from polluted or algae-laden waters may pose health risks.

Despite the difficulties, the divers return to the estuaries day after day. The clams they gather help support their families and sustain a traditional coastal livelihood.

Among herostones and lost inscriptions

Intrigued by old historical references, Kirti Malhotra visits a little-known village near Nelamangala and uncovers traces of a past buried in stone

While searching through some old records, I came across an intriguing name 'Sarvamanya Varadanayakanahalli' in an 1893 issue of *The Mysore Gazette* (TMG). It was described as an 'Inam village' in Nelamangala taluk.

Curious about the village, I searched for references in the Archaeological Survey of Mysore (ASM) reports. The 1914-15 report mentioned 'Varanayakanhalli, a Sarvamanya village' belonging to a math at Shivaganga (in Nelamangala taluk). It soon became clear that this was the same village referred to as 'Varadanayakanahalli' in TMG. The prefix Sarvamanya indicated that the village was a gift to the math.

The ASM report also mentioned two inscriptions discovered near an Anjaneya temple in the village. Interestingly, these inscriptions are not recorded in *Epigraphia Carnatica*, a comprehensive collection of inscriptions from the Old Mysore region. The first one, a Kannada record of 'the Chola king Rajadhiraja' dated to 1050 AD, spoke of 'three sons of Duggayya-Gavunda of Kesur in Manne-nadu who fought and fell during the destruction of the village'.

The second inscription, a Tamil record of 'the Hoysala king Vishnuvardhana', apparently dated to 1128 AD, recorded that Sila-gamundan fell, having been stabbed by Purkodinadalvar' in 'Mannai-nadu'. Manne, historically known as Manyapura, is the capital of the Ganga dynasty and is located in Nelamangala taluk.

The village seemed to have had an interesting history and I decided to explore. Getting down at the Nelamangala bus stand, I took a bus to Budihal and then walked nearly six kilometres to reach Baradi. From locals there, I learnt that the entrance to Varadanayakanahalli lay another two kilometres away, marked by the Anjaneya temple mentioned in the ASM report.

When I reached the temple, I found it was renovated. Bright colours and modern tiles covered the structure, while two newly built shrines stood beside it. There was nothing visibly ancient around the premises. I felt that the inscriptions might have been lost forever.

Yet, the ASM references had convinced me that the village was special and could have had other herostones. Walking through the village, I reached the Maheshwaramma temple. On enquiring about herostones there, the villagers directed me towards a grove thick with vegetation. After clearing the overgrowth, a set of four herostones emerged. Later, I learnt that villagers referred to them as *Eere Amma Sati Kallu*. The first and third stones depicted Sati figures holding oil pouches in their right hands. The fourth was particularly striking, portraying a hero locked in combat with a tiger whose bared teeth stood out.

A hero stone at Varadanayakanahalli depicting two brave dogs fighting a wild boar.

Herostone for hunting dogs

The discovery made me realise that fragments of history could still be scattered across the village. I was not disappointed. Soon, I located another herostone depicting two brave dogs fighting a wild boar. I had only read about herostones erected for hunting dogs; here was one.

As I walked a little further, near a small drain, I noticed the outline of another carved slab partly buried in the earth. As I cleaned it, a beautiful herostone emerged. Unlike most depictions, the hero here was not shown in combat. He appeared calm, resting with folded hands upon his chest, his sword lying next to him, while the opponent stood nearby holding a dagger ready to stab him.

I wondered if this could be the same herostone mentioned in the ASM report describing the warrior who was stabbed. The ASM had stated that the inscription was engraved on the back of a herostone. But the slab was too heavy to turn over, and there was no way of finding out if it had an inscription on its reverse side.

After crossing another open drain, I came upon the ruins of a *mantapa* that now has a massive anthill. Beside it stood yet another partly buried herostone depicting a warrior with a Sati to his left. Nearby lay a slab carved with Lord Narasimha seated in *yogic simhasana* posture, an image commonly seen on pillars of some Vaishnava temples like in the Vijayanagara-era Bugga Ramalingeswara temple in Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh. It felt strangely out of place amid the neglected surroundings.

The villagers later told me about an instance of miscreants digging up stones for treasure and destroying them. I explained to them the significance of the two missing inscriptions, which could trace the village's history to a millennium. I also hoped they preserve the existing relics of the past.

A set of four herostones at Varadanayakanahalli. PHOTOS BY AUTHOR

FEEDBACK
Send your ideas and comments to: spectrum@deccanherald.co.in

Where science and maths come alive

Shrinidhi R writes about the Dharwad Regional Science Centre and its role in encouraging students to learn through questioning, exploration and experimentation

On the sprawling 24-acre campus of Karnatak University in Dharwad, schoolchildren can be seen measuring angles with giant models, spinning mathematical wheels and exploring scientific concepts through play. What may appear to be a recreational outing is, in fact, part of a larger effort to nurture scientific curiosity among young minds.

Set up by the National Council of Science Museums in 2013, the Dharwad Regional Science Centre (DRSC) has emerged as a vibrant hub for science education and outreach in North Karnataka. It houses a two-storeyed science museum featuring interactive exhibits, scientific models and educational displays designed to spark curiosity and foster experiential learning. The ground floor showcases exhibits on the Indus valley civilisation, medieval history, a nuclear power plant model, prehistoric life as well as models of galaxies and stars.

From introducing students to astronomy and mathematics to encouraging careers in the basic sciences, the centre has steadily promoted scientific inquiry beyond the classroom. Through more than 1,000 workshops, training programmes and awareness activities, it has reached thousands of students and teachers across Dharwad and neighbouring districts.

Among DRSC's most recent attractions is the Srinivasa Ramanujan Mathematics Park, the first such facility in South India. Spread across an acre, the park, developed in 2026, seeks to make mathematics learner-friendly by presenting concepts through interactive models and demonstrations.

The park features colourful models covering geometry, trigonometry, algebra, arithmetic and other branches of mathematics. Designed in line with the curriculum for Classes 5 to 10, the models enable students to understand concepts through observation and hands-on interaction. Each exhibit is accompanied by explanatory panels that simplify concepts.

Operating under the theme, "See and Understand, Make and Understand," the park allows students to engage with ideas around triangles, pie charts and the Pythagorean theorem, turning abstract lessons into tangible experiences.

"Many students perceive mathematics as a difficult subject. Through interactive models, they can easily understand various concepts while enjoying the learning process," says Sandeep, a staff member at the centre.

Visvanath Pawar, a student at Government High School, Garag, who has visited the centre six times, says he finds the park immensely helpful in understanding concepts more effectively. "The centre introduced me to the fascinating world of astronomy. Since our school lacks well-equipped laboratories, subjects like science and mathematics are often confined to textbooks. Our teachers get us here once every three months and every visit makes learning more engaging," he says.

Government school teacher Basavaraj Madannavar says the park has generated considerable enthusiasm among students because it enables them to learn through practical demonstrations rather than conventional classroom methods.

According to DRSC Director Veeranna Bolishetti, the park is unique in South India because of its close alignment with the school curriculum and emphasis on hands-on learning.

While the Mathematics Park reflects the centre's present strengths, its future ambitions are taking shape in the form of a much larger project.

The project 'Science City' is envisioned as a destination for science education, innovation and research.

Mathematics models on display at the Srinivasa Ramanujan Mathematics Park on the Dharwad Regional Science Centre campus in Dharwad. DH PHOTOS/ B M KEDARNATH

Planned across nearly five acres within the campus, the project will feature an Innovation Hub costing Rs 1.80 crore.

Being established in collaboration with the State Science and Technology Department, the facility aims to provide students, researchers and young innovators with infrastructure, mentorship and opportunities for experimentation.

"The Innovation Hub will help students and young innovators transform their ideas into reality. They will be able to design models, conduct experiments and gain insights into scientific and engineering concepts," says Bolishetti.

The hub will cater to disciplines ranging from basic sciences and engineering to automation, automobile technology, computer science, chemistry, physics and electronics. Faculty members from various departments of Karnatak University will mentor students and guide research-oriented projects.

A window to the universe

Another major attraction planned as part of Science City is a digital planetarium.

The state government has granted administrative approval for a 2D 4K digital planetarium equipped with full-dome visual systems, advanced projection technology and modern audio systems at a cost of Rs 12.69 crore.

The DRSC is also expected to seek state support for travel assistance to schools from Belagavi, Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Koppal, Gadag and Haveri districts, enabling more students to visit the centre.

"The DRSC is steadily evolving into a regional centre for science learning, helping students move beyond textbooks and discover science through exploration and experimentation," says former DRSC director K B Gudasi.

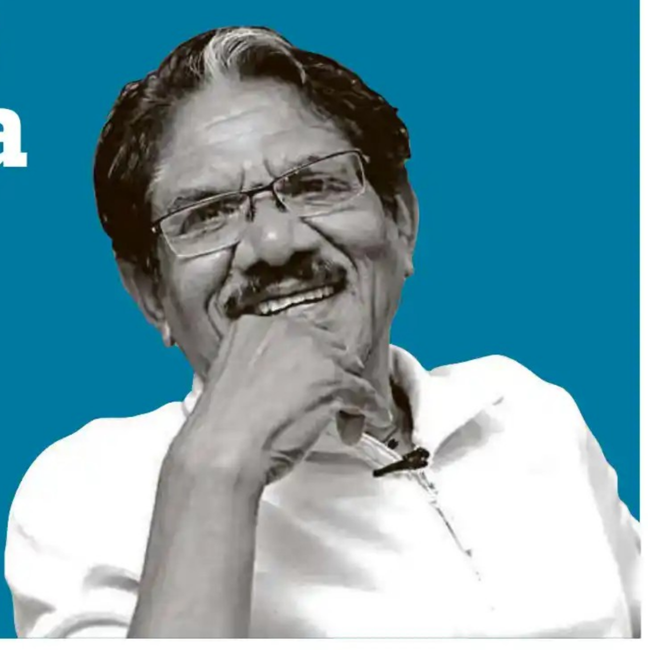
Bengaluru Thursday, June 11, 2026 Pages 20 Vol 79 No 161 ₹7

www.deccanherald.com Follow us on @deccanherald

DH
DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Bharathiraja, who brought Tamil cinema to villages, no more

Page 8



Nation

'Gross abuse of law': HC quashes FIR, ED probe against NewsClick, Prabir P.9

State

Bitcoin scam: BJP link will emerge, says Priyank P.5

World

Pak airstrike kills 26 in Afghanistan P.10

Business

Meta, Reliance to build data centre in Guj P.11

US strikes Iran after blaming Tehran for helicopter crash

Trump says going to attack Iran 'very hard' if deal delayed

DUBAI/TEHRAN, AGENCIES

The United States launched airstrikes early Wednesday against Iran, and US President Donald Trump said more were on the way, as Tehran fired back at countries in the region.

The escalating attacks threatened to derail efforts to end the war, with Trump warning that Tehran would "pay the price" for stalled peace negotiations.

Trump's warning came hours after Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan — all of which host US troops — came under Iranian fire. It was the second time this week that back-and-forth strikes have tested a two-month ceasefire. On Monday, Iran and Israel targeted each other.

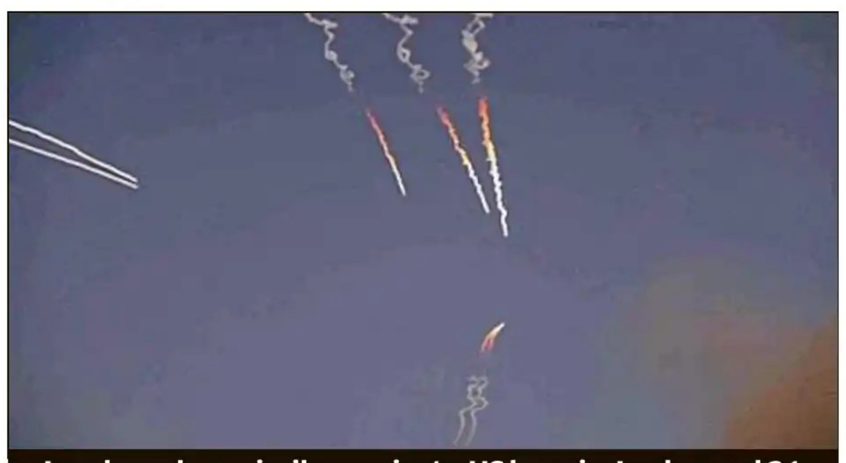
"We're going to be attacking them, attacking them very hard," Trump told reporters at the White House. He wouldn't say if he planned to follow through on threats he made earlier to attack bridges and utility plants in Iran.

"We were really close to a deal but they keep tapping us along," Trump said.

Trump had said on Tuesday that talks to bring about a definitive end to the West Asia war were in the "final throes", only to offer a starkly different assessment a day later.

"Iran is all talk and no action," he posted on his Truth Social platform on Wednesday.

▸ Iran, Page 4



Iran launches missiles against a US base in Jordan and 21 other targets in the Gulf on Wednesday. REUTERS

They've taken too long to negotiate a deal that would have been great for them, now they will have to pay the price!!!
Donald Trump

What's latest in West Asia

- US strikes overnight lasts about four hours, 20 Iranian targets hit
- Iran launches retaliatory missile and drone attacks on US bases in Jordan, Kuwait and Bahrain
- Iran's foreign ministry says it will reassess engagement US
- Delegation from Qatar lands in Tehran for mediation talks
- Israeli airstrikes in southern Lebanon kill at least 13

India summons US diplomat

A senior US diplomat was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on Wednesday after three seafarers from India were reported missing following a missile strike by the US Navy on the commercial vessel MT Settebello off the coast of Oman. P 5B

Pak Army chopper crashes in PoK, all on board killed, Page 10

FIFA WORLD CUP

Teams: 48 | Players: 1,048 | Matches: 104 | Stadiums: 16 | Days: 39

Argentina's Lionel Messi has the most World Cup appearances with 26.

Brazil, with five, have the most number of FIFA World Cup titles but their last championship came in **2002**

Four-time champions **Italy** are the first former winners to miss three FIFA World Cups on the bounce **(2018, 2022, 2026).**

World Cup kicks off amid war shadow

Build-up marred by strict US immigration and visa crackdowns

DH NEWS SERVICE

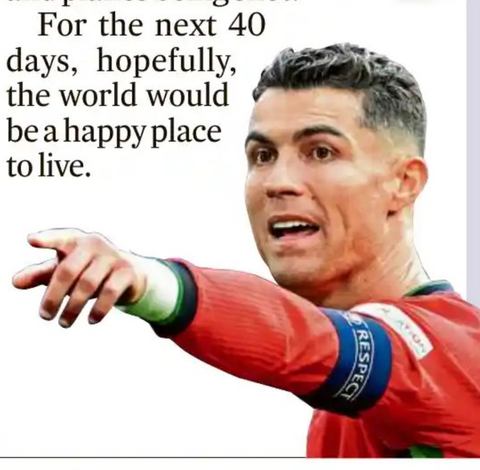
Amidst the long shadow of the war, involving two participating teams, the 23th edition of the FIFA World Cup commences in northern America on Thursday with Mexico, taking on South Africa in Mexico City.

With the USA, one of the hosts along with Mexico and Canada, launching war on Iran, one of the qualifiers for the finals from Asia, doubts lingered over the gulf nation's participation in the extravaganza. US president Donald Trump's veiled threat, passed on as suggestion, that it wouldn't be safe for Iran's team to play in his country further complicated the issue.

Amid this crisis, strict immigrant policies to the US and exorbitant ticket prices for the matches, marred the build up to the most anticipated sporting gala in the world.

Hopefully, when the ball is kicked on Friday morning (12.30 am IST), the beautiful game would dominate the conversation; geopolitical discussion would take a back seat while Lionel Messi's brilliance and Cristiano Ronaldo's quest for missing glory form the narrative; brilliant goals, stunning upsets and heartbreaking losses will replace news of innocent lives being lost and planes being shot.

For the next 40 days, hopefully, the world would be a happy place to live.



Enjoy our World Cup special coverage on pg 13, 14, 15

Football fever grips City

As the World Cup kicks off, football fever has gripped Bengaluru. From late-night screenings to friendly tournaments supporters are gearing up for a month of celebration. Page 2

Centre set to approve Metro Phase 3 with double-decker

MUTHI-UR-RAHMAN SIDDIQUI
BENGALURU, DHNS

In limbo due to its double-decker component, Namma Metro's Phase 3 is now finally on track to receive the Union government's approval, official sources told *DH*.

In a draft report, central PSU RITES Ltd has noted that the 44.65-km project's Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) will be 15.9%, well above the 14% desirable for a mass rapid transit system.

The EIRR is a financial metric used to evaluate the broader socio-economic viability and desirability of a metro project.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) decided to reassess the EIRR through a quick study of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) after the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) raised concerns about material changes in the original project structure.

When the Centre approved Phase 3 on September 13, 2024, there was no double-decker viaduct.

▸ Metro, Page 4

Nod sought for 5 RRTS lines

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar has sought the Centre's approval for building Regional Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) lines connecting Bengaluru to Mysuru, Kanakpura, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur and Kolar.

Details on Page 4

Sluggish growth cunningly given Hindu tag by Congress: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, DHNS

In a speech to the constituents of the National Democratic Alliance as he completed 12 years in office, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Congress used 'Hindu Growth Rate' in an attempt to whitewash its failures.

"In the last 12 years, the country has been liberated from the Congress. They said development is slow in India, and called it the 'Hindu rate of growth'. Failures were Congress's, but the blame was of the Hindus. It should have been called the Congress rate of growth instead," Modi said.

He said he never thought he would get the opportunity to be the longest serving elected PM. "This is my good fortune."

Modi also said he recognises the challenges faced by the middle class. "To support them, income up to Rs 12 lakh per annum is now tax-free. Improved infrastructure has made daily life easier, and over the past 12 years, new opportunities have been created for the children of the middle class," he said.

▸ Modi, Page 5

Day after release of 14 Kukis, bodies of 6 missing Nagas found

FROM THE GROUND

SUMIR KARMAKAR
IMPHAL, DHNS

Just when many were expecting a reciprocal gesture by the Kuki organisations in response to the release of 14 persons by the Nagas on Tuesday, there came a shocker. Manipur Police on Wednesday said they found the bodies of six people, suspected to be of missing Naga men, who were abducted from Kangpokpi district on May 13.

The bodies were found following a 24-hour search operation involving 450 personnel of the state police, CRPF and Assam Rifles. They were assisted by sniffer dogs and forensic experts.

Naga group, UNC, has declared a 24-hour shutdown and refused to accept the bodies till removal of deputy CM Nemcha Kipgen and the abrogation of the Suspension of Operations agreement with the Kuki armed groups.

▸ Kukis, Page 5

Rs 39k-cr garbage scam in GBA, alleges Ashoka

BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R Ashoka on Wednesday accused the ruling Congress of taking a kickback of Rs 10,000 crore in an alleged "Rs 39,000-crore garbage processing scam" in the GBA.

"This is the first time in the country's history that such a massive loot has occurred in the name of garbage," he said.

Details on Page 5

Kurubas granted over half of BC community halls, hostels

BENGALURU, DHNS: More than half of the community halls and student hostels sanctioned to the backward classes in the current fiscal have gone to organisations and trusts affiliated to the Kuruba community.

According to a government order dated June 3, 80 of the 155 community halls (Samudaya Bhavans) and hostels were sanctioned by the Backward Classes Welfare Department to the Kuruba community at a total cost of Rs 208 crore.

Details on Page 5A

A YEAR AFTER TRAGEDY

Air India crash: Trauma-hit families still scramble for answers

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

David Christian has watched hundreds of airplanes flying over his city in the past one year. He is grieving over a particular aircraft that didn't make it to its destination, and also seeking answers as to what exactly happened to it.

It was on June 12 last year that a London-bound Air India flight crashed into the hostel complex of BJ Medical College in Ahmedabad moments after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, killing 241 passengers on board and 19 on the ground. Only one passenger survived.

The deceased passengers included Christian's son Roger and daughter-in-law Rachna.

Christian, a retired government employee, terms it the greatest grief of his life.

"It has been almost a year... There is no question of forgetting it ever in our lives. Entire year has been filled with difficulties... I would wake up at night and cry. Even now, I don't have the courage to enter the room where my son lived," he says.

A resident of Chandkheda in Ahmedabad, Christian says he has come to terms with the loss but wants the government to release the investigation report soon.

"We can't do anything about the loss. But what can give us or all families (victims') some respite is the report revealing what led to the crash. Thousands of planes would have flown over the past one year... the government should tell us what went wrong with that particular flight," he says.

Christian's son and daughter-in-law had come to Ahmedabad from the UK for five days and were returning when the tragedy struck.

The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) hasn't submitted its final report on the crash. In the preliminary report, it said the fuel supply to both engines of the aircraft was cut off within a gap of one second.

▸ AI crash, Page 5

The wreckage of the crashed aircraft in Ahmedabad. PTI FILE

Questions over compensation

Radhika Mishra, daughter of former Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani, who died in the crash, raised concerns that Air India was pressuring victims' families to accept a final compensation settlement that would require them to waive their future rights to sue it. Page 5B

DH reality check finds poor ventilation, blocked exits and narrow access lanes in key commercial hubs, raising concerns

City's cramped eateries are a Recipe for hazards

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

Several small hotels and eateries operating in the busy Majestic, Chickpet, KR Market and Shivajinagar areas are posing a serious fire hazard, a *DH* reality check has found.

Many have poor ventilation, little airflow, and limited escape options in the event of a fire.

On May 8, a short circuit fire at a hotel in Nagarabhavi killed a worker trapped in an upper room filled with smoke. In April, a kitchen fire destroyed a newly opened hotel on NICE Road.

In parts of Chickpet and Shivajinagar, kitchens occupy cramped 10x10 feet rooms, with gas stoves positioned next to the only exit.

"There is no space to breathe here, let alone put in a big chimney," said Anand, who manages a small tiffin room in Gandhinagar. "If we change the kitchen to add doors or windows, we lose table space. Less tables means less business and we have rents to pay."

Manjunath S, the owner of a 15-seater darshini in a four-foot-wide alley off Chickpet Main Road, told *DH*: "They talk about the National Building Code requiring a 1.2-metre-wide staircase and a 4-metre gap between structures. My shop is built on a 10x15-feet plot. If I leave four metres of open space, I will have to set up my kitchen stove on the road.

"The building is 60 years old; we cannot magically alter it. For small businesses like ours, allocating square footage to an emergency exit means losing two dining tables."

> There are no windows because the building owners sealed them years ago to prevent pigeons from entering and to maximise wall space for storage shelves. In the afternoon, the air gets so thick with oil smoke, chilli powder and heat that our boys can barely breathe. The single exhaust fan is constantly choked with black grease.
>
> **RANGANATH K,** Cook at an old lunch home near Gandhinagar

"When you walk into these tiny basement hotels, the air is thick with oil smoke. It feels tight and it is difficult to breathe. If something catches fire, we will all get trapped inside," said Salman Khan, a regular at a popular biryani joint in Shivajinagar.

A senior fire inspector from the Karnataka State Fire and Emergency Services said small food joints often remain outside the formal safety net.

"Because these small food joints are tiny, they do not apply for a regular Fire No Objection Certificate (NOC), which keeps them completely hidden from safety checks. The lanes in Chickpet and KR Market are so narrow that our large fire trucks cannot even enter. If there is a short circuit or gas leak, poor airflow turns these small eateries into deadly smoke traps within two minutes," the inspector told *DH*.

The inspector said the risk is compounded because many buildings in these congested commercial areas share common walls, allowing fires to spread rapidly from one structure to another.

(With inputs from Manjunath Shettar)

1 Cramped, windowless eateries like this one near Majestic expose workers and diners to extreme heat and poor air quality every day.

2 An elderly customer sits inside a cramped eatery near Gandhinagar, where owners say adding ventilation or emergency exits would come at the cost of valuable seating space.

3 A popular hotel near KR Market. DH PHOTOS/ASHWIN BM

No-NOC eateries

Many small eateries operate without a Fire NOC, leaving them outside routine safety checks. Narrow lanes in Chickpet and KR Market restrict fire truck access, while poor ventilation can turn fires into deadly smoke traps. Shared walls between buildings further accelerate the spread of fire.

Fire safety gap in older commercial hubs

1 Many lodges and hotels operate in buildings under 21 metres, where several fire safety measures are not mandatory

2 Fire officials can inspect premises based on public complaints and issue safety recommendations

3 Enforcement action lies with the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and other agencies, not the fire department

4 Officials can recommend extinguishers, clear exits, additional emergency exits and better preparedness

5 Ageing electrical systems, illegal modifications, and poor upkeep heighten fire risks

6 The fire department and GBA plan surprise inspections; violations could invite stringent action.

Service road planned along Ejipura flyover

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru South City Corporation (BSCC) Commissioner KN Ramesh has directed officials to develop a service road along the ongoing Ejipura flyover to ease traffic flow.

While inspecting the project area, Ramesh reviewed road-widening requirements near Kendriya Sadan Junction and St John's signal.

At Kendriya Sadan Junction, the corporation needs to acquire 590 sqm of land belonging to St John's Medical College to widen the service road. Additional land is also required at St John's signal to construct the flyover's up ramp for vehicles coming from Sarjapur.

"The commissioner directed the officials to send a request letter to the St John's Medical College administration.

"The college administration has also promised to respond positively," a BSCC statement said.

Ramesh also directed officials to prepare an action plan identifying alternative routes to reduce inconvenience to the public during construction of the Ejipura flyover.

Govt seeks Rs 1,000 crore from BDA to fund road development projects

All five corporations get three days to submit plan

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

In a rare move, the state government has directed the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) to contribute Rs 1,000 crore towards a new Rs 2,000-crore road development programme, even though a large portion of these roads fall outside the planning authority's jurisdiction.

The works — mostly involving asphalting — will be executed by the five newly carved municipal corporations.

The decision was taken at the Cabinet meeting on June 3, after DK Shivakumar assumed charge as Chief Minister.

Under the funding arrangement, the state government will provide the remaining Rs 1,000 crore, while the BDA has been asked to transfer its share to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), which will then release funds to the five corporations for execution.

According to a government order issued on June 8, the GBA chief commissioner and the commissioners of the five corporations have been directed to prepare Assembly constituency-wise action plans and submit them within three days.

Ongoing construction of a new RCC culvert on Kamaraj Road near Nala Road, being undertaken by the Greater Bengaluru Authority. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Once approved, the corporations have been instructed to float short-term tenders, indicating the government's intent to complete the works at the earliest.

It is learnt that the GBA has received oral instructions on fund allocation, with around Rs 50 crore proposed for Assembly constituencies represented by BJP legislators and Rs 100 crore for those represented by Congress legislators. No formal order to this effect has been issued.

The June 8 order states that cost estimates for the works should be prepared based on the 'Namma Raste' manual and the latest Schedule of Rates (SR) issued by the Public Works Department. It also authorises the chief engineers of the corporations to ensure that selected roads facilitate smooth traffic flow, that there is no duplication of works, and that the roads are not already covered under defect liability periods.

The fresh road package comes even as progress remains slow on road development programmes announced last year.

The government had earlier sanctioned separate grants of Rs 1,000 crore for ward roads and Rs 1,250 crore for arterial and sub-arterial roads. However, implementation has lagged, largely due to shortage of bituminous asphalt.

Sources said only around 15% of ward road works have been completed so far, while progress on arterial and sub-arterial road projects is estimated at about 10%.

Urbanist Ashwin Mahesh said the challenge lies not in allocating more funds, but in improving implementation capacity.

"The five corporations together do not have the internal capacity to spend substantially more than what they are already spending. Instead of addressing execution speed and institutional capacity, the government continues to announce new packages. On the ground, there is not much change," he said.

Questions raised

- The funding arrangement has raised questions within government circles.
- First, the additional Rs 1,000 crore contribution to the city was not part of the state budget.
- Second, concerns have been raised over directing the BDA to finance projects outside its core mandate, especially at a time when it is struggling to complete several of its own infrastructure projects, including the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout.

Garbage collection hit as auto-tippers stay off roads

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's worsening garbage blackspots and irregular door-to-door waste collection have been linked to a shortage of auto-tippers, with a Lokayukta investigation finding that nearly 200 to 300 vehicles remain off the road on any given day.

The findings emerged during the Lokayukta's review of the city's solid waste management system.

Lokayukta BS Patil constituted three teams to assess ground realities across the city. The probe highlighted significant gaps in waste collection, leading to missed pickups and rising complaints from residents in several localities.

According to the report, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) has penalised contractors for failing to deploy the required number of auto-tippers. However, these penalties have not been effectively used to ensure uninterrupted waste collection services. The BSWML also expressed its inability to replace contractors in certain wards due to a lack of alternative service providers.

A garbage collection point off Hosur Road. DH FILE PHOTO

To address the issue, civic authorities are now considering a shift in the waste collection model. One proposal under review involves the city corporations directly purchasing auto-tippers instead of relying entirely on private contractors.

Under this system, the vehicles would remain under municipal ownership, while staff would be engaged through outsourcing agencies.

Patil has suggested that this model could reduce dependence on contractors, particularly in situations where they fail to provide the required number of vehicles. He also noted that several local bodies outside Bengaluru already manage waste collection using their own fleets.

The recommendations are expected to be taken up by the government and civic agencies as part of broader efforts to strengthen Bengaluru's solid waste management system and improve service delivery to residents.

Traffic advisory for Dalit protest at Freedom Park today

BENGALURU, DHNS: In view of a protest organised by the Karnataka Dalitha Sanghatana Samithi at Freedom Park from 8 am to 6 pm on Thursday, the traffic police have announced temporary traffic restrictions and diversions to ensure smooth vehicular movement in the Central Business District (CBD).

Diversions, restrictions

Vehicles approaching Freedom Park from Mysore Bank Circle via KG Road are advised to take a right turn and proceed via Maharani Underpass Road and Palace Cross Road.

Vehicular movement between Freedom Park Junction and Kanakadasa Circle has been temporarily prohibited in both directions. No vehicles will be allowed on this stretch during the protest.

Motorists travelling from Khode Junction towards KR Circle are advised to use Old JD(S) Office Road to avoid congestion, as protest participants are expected to march on foot from the City Railway Station via the flyover road towards Freedom Park.

To facilitate traffic flow, the stretch from Subbanna Junction to MTR Junction, normally a one-way road, has been temporarily converted into a two-way route.

Commuters heading towards Gandhinagar may use this as an alternative route.

Police have also prohibited parking of all types of vehicles from Khode Junction to Maharani Junction, and along V Ramachandra Road, Kalidasa Road, Palace Road, and KG Road.

KSRTC MD transferred

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government on Wednesday transferred Akram Pasha, the managing director of the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC).

Selvamani R, a 2013-batch IAS officer who was appointed the managing director of the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) last week, will hold concurrent charge of the KSRTC MD.

Model wards for dog control planned

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru West City Corporation (BWCC) plans to develop four model wards on a pilot basis with zero dog bite cases and no street dog reproduction.

The programme aims to achieve 100% Animal Birth Control (ABC) coverage and full anti-rabies vaccination of street dogs in the selected wards.

BWCC Commissioner Rajendra KV on Wednesday directed officials to launch a special programme and achieve model ward status in the four wards within three months.

Rajendra also directed officials to establish pet-friendly parks in four locations during the first phase, one in each Assembly constituency.

The BWCC will also introduce three mobile veterinary clinics or rescue vehicles.

Officials have been instructed to double the capacity of the 100-kennel Sumanahalli ABC centre and expedite construction of a shelter for 500 street dogs at Sajjepalya village. They were also asked to shut down unauthorised meat shops.

Urban Mobility Mission mooted to address Bengaluru traffic issues: Home Minister

BENGALURU, DHNS: Home Minister Priyank Kharge on Wednesday said a suggestion has been received to set up a Bengaluru Urban Mobility Mission to address traffic congestion by fixing systemic deficiencies.

He was briefing the media after a review meeting with senior police officers in Bengaluru.

"We have decided to form a team after discussions with the GBA commissioner, BMTC and BMRCL. We will plan the Urban Mobility Mission with participation from private companies. Details will be shared in a few days."

Law & order

"I have directed the formation of anti-rowdy squads in every police station and issued strict instructions to ensure that lower-level officials do not engage with rowdy elements and take action where necessary," he said.

On cybercrime cases, the Home Minister said efforts are underway to control them. "We will consult private companies next week for support in strengthening cyber safety guardrails," he said.

On drugs, he said discussions were held on detention and deportation of foreign nationals. He also noted efforts to curb drug inflow from neighbouring states such as Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, along with plans to increase testing kits.

He added that a blueprint to tackle drugs will be prepared within two weeks. "We will study best practices in other states and countries to see whether policy reforms or stronger enforcement are needed," Priyank said.

He also dismissed claims of friction between different police divisions.

FIFA WORLD CUP

Football fever sweeps city with street art & superstitions

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

As the FIFA World Cup kicks off, football fever has gripped Bengaluru.

From late-night screenings to friendly tournaments across neighbourhoods, supporters are gearing up for a month of celebration.

Fans are showing their enthusiasm by decorating their homes and even entire neighbourhoods.

Gowthampura, near Trinity Circle, popularly known as the 'Little Brazil' of Bengaluru for its deep attachment to football, has begun decking out its streets.

"Everyone in the neighbourhood is in a festive spirit. We are repainting the legendary Pelé statue and also working on creating an installation of the World Cup trophy," said Clinto Ravi, a 28-year resident of Gowthampura.

"We all support Brazil, so we'll be decorating in our team's colours. All Brazil fans in the area are chipping in for the decorations."

Football groups and fan clubs in the city are planning screenings and meets throughout the month, while navigating the logistics of midnight and early morning games.

With the United States, Mexico and Canada hosting the tournament this year, most games will kick off past midnight for Indian viewers.

"We are a group formed to support Manchester United. So, during the World Cup season it is an interesting time for our group as loyalties get divided. There is a lot of banter when we get together to watch matches," said Maheshwar Haobijam, football coach and core committee member of Manchester United Supporters' Club Bengaluru.

Football enthusiasts in Gowthampura gear up, crafting a vibrant World Cup installation that brings the spirit of the game to life. DH PHOTO/BK JANARDHAN

"We are planning screenings in either Koramangala, Kalyan Nagar or Church Street. Usually, over a thousand people get together for our screenings, but since the match timings are odd this year, we are not expecting a big crowd."

'Sisters in Sweat', a sport and wellness community exclusively for women, is planning a mini tournament and screenings in the second half of the event.

"We are planning a tournament with four teams, representing the World Cup teams. Details for this are yet to be finalised," said Tanvie Hans, footballer and co-founder of 'Sisters in Sweat'.

While some pubs and cafes are planning midnight screenings and special menus, most establishments are likely to miss out on the World Cup fever this year due to operational restrictions beyond 1 am.

No permission for screenings beyond 1 am: Police chief

"We will not give any establishment special permission to screen matches or host large gatherings beyond 1 am," Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh told DH.

"If any pub or restaurant is found to be breaking this rule, the establishment will be immediately shut down, and a case will be booked," Singh said.

Traditions & rituals

Many fans are also turning to cherished rituals and superstitions they believe bring luck to their teams.

'Vomit jersey'

For Australian Consulate diplomat Andrew Collister, a supporter of his national team, the 'vomit jersey' has proven lucky.

The jersey, worn by the side between 1990 and 1993, features an abstract green and yellow pattern. which is often compared to vomit.

"We Australians are used to watching football games in the middle of the night. The supporters in Bengaluru are getting together for watch parties this year," he said.

Nisarg Vashisht, architect and a devoted Argentina fan, stays away from all social gatherings during the tournament.

"I religiously watch the games only at home, as anytime I have stepped out during a match, Argentina has either performed poorly or lost the game."

Non-existent property used to secure Rs 70-lakh loan; FIR filed

Forged khata, other supporting records generated with help of civic officials

BENGALURU, DHNS

A loan fraud involving a non-existent property has come to light after the Halasuru Gate police registered a case against a borrower, a bank official, and others for allegedly forging documents and cheating a cooperative bank of Rs 70 lakh.

According to a senior police officer, the complaint was filed by Prasanna DR, General Manager of Nyayamitra Sahakari Bank.

In his complaint, he stated that Prakash H had approached the bank in 2023 seeking a loan of Rs 1 crore. The proposal was placed before the bank's board of directors, which reportedly authorised the then chairman and officials concerned to verify the legal documents and obtain the necessary clearances before processing the loan.

The property documents submitted by the borrower were referred to the bank's legal adviser for scrutiny.

The first legal opinion reportedly raised objections and pointed out deficiencies in the documents.

Instead of placing the opinion before the board of directors for further consideration, the matter was referred to another legal adviser, who suggested that the loan could be sanctioned subject to the production of certain documents. However, the second legal opinion was also not placed before the board, and several documents mentioned in the opinion were never obtained.

Despite these shortcomings, a loan of Rs 70 lakh was sanctioned and disbursed to the borrower.

The fraud came to light after the borrower defaulted on the loan repayments.

Following the default, the bank directed its officials to conduct a field verification of the property offered as collateral.

During the inspection, bank representatives learnt from local residents that the site neither belonged to the borrower nor to the purported seller, and that the property described in the documents did not exist at the stated location.

Subsequent verification revealed that fake records had been created to portray the property as genuine.

The complainant alleged that forged GBA (BBMP) khata documents and other supporting records were generated with the assistance of certain civic officials. These fabricated documents were then submitted to the bank to secure the loan.

Three accused, including the former in-charge branch manager, have been named in the FIR. They have been booked on charges of cheating, forgery, and criminal conspiracy. Notices will be issued to the accused shortly as part of the ongoing investigation, the police officer said.

How the fraud unfolded

- Fake/non-existent property was shown as collateral for a Rs 70-lakh loan.
- Initial legal review flagged issues, but it was bypassed.
- Loan was sanctioned despite missing verifications.
- After default, inspection revealed that the said property did not exist.
- Forged documents were used to secure the loan.

Nepalese couple held for stealing Rs 25 lakh from contractor's house

BENGALURU, DHNS: Amruthahalli police have arrested a Nepalese couple for allegedly stealing Rs 25 lakh from the residence of a contractor and attempting to flee the city.

The accused have been identified as Pawan Bista, 30, and Seeta Bista, 28.

According to a senior police officer, the couple had been employed by contractor Subba Reddy, a resident of Arkavathi Layout, about a month ago.

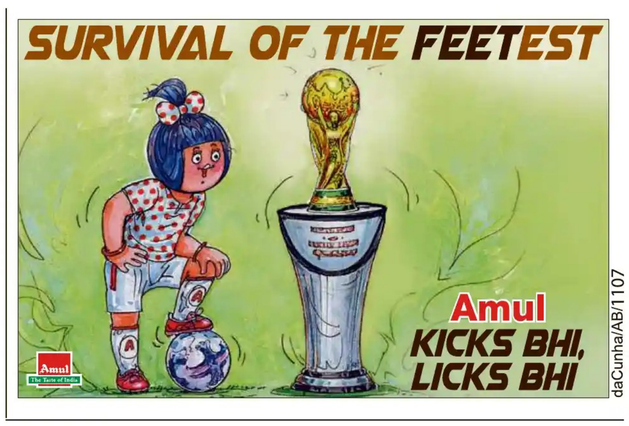
Pawan worked as a security guard, while his wife Seeta was employed as a domestic help. The couple was staying in a room provided by Reddy at his residence.

Police said Reddy had kept the cash at home to pay wages to workers engaged in his contracting business.

Taking advantage of their access to the house and knowledge of where the money was kept, the couple stole Rs 25 lakh and were planning to leave the city.

After the theft came to light, Amruthahalli police registered a case on May 28.

Based on CCTV footage and other evidence, the accused were traced and arrested, and the stolen cash was recovered, police said.



daCunha/AB/1107

New BMTC bus from Jigani APC Circle

BENGALURU, DHNS: The BMTC will introduce a new non-AC bus service on the following route on June 15:

CHAKRA-3: Jigani APC Circle to Jigani APC Circle via Haragadde, Indluvadi Cross, Anekal, Karpur Gate, Chandapura and Rupesh Hotel. Four buses will be deployed.

Science, industry leaders to converge on CSIR RISE conclave

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) will host the sixth edition of its conclave — Research, Industry, Startup and Entrepreneurship (RISE) — in the city this weekend.

The conclave, under the aegis of the Ministry of Science and Technology, is part of a series of events organised across the country to foster collaboration and entrepreneurship in line with India's 'Whole-of-Science and Innovation' vision.

Focusing on the theme 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship Driven Growth for Viksit Bharat 2047,' the Bengaluru edition will aim to strengthen partnership between academia, research laboratories, and industry to translate scientific research into commercial solutions.

The two-day event will feature discussions on aerospace, Artificial Intelligence and the agri food ecosystem.

Sessions will explore aerospace-driven industrial growth, societal and ethical dimensions of AI, and ways to strengthen the journey of food and agricultural technologies from laboratories to the market.

The conclave will host eight panel discussions and more than 25 keynote and panel speakers from the industry. Representatives from various organisations, including Bosch, Tata Advanced Systems, Airbus, BEML, IBM, Isro, IISc and IIM Bangalore, are expected to participate, among others.

Overall, approximately 800 delegates are expected to attend.

Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, is expected to inaugurate the conclave this weekend.

Nearly 5 years after single use plastic ban, implementation remains weak

BENGALURU, DHNS

Local bodies, including pollution control boards, are yet to comply with the ban on single use plastic (SUP), nearly five years after the ban came into force.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has sought field inspections, action-taken reports, and setting up of a control room.

The August 2021 ban on SUP became effective from December 31, 2022.

Writing to the state government, the CPCB cited the amended Plastic Waste Management Rules, putting principal secretaries of the urban development and panchayat raj departments as in-charge for its implementation.

In the last four years, the board asked state authorities, including the PCBs, to conduct exhaustive inspection drives to identify and crackdown on manufacturers and suppliers of SUP.

But continued SUP use and carry bags of less than 120 microns has been a cause for concern.

The CPCB has now asked the secretaries to constitute special teams and conduct enforcement drives for four days in June and for one month every quarter.

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has been asked to coordinate with the Urban Development Department.

The CPCB has asked states to submit a quarterly report detailing enforcement drives, specifying the number of inspections and action taken. It has also asked states to set up a control room to monitor the enforcement.

Just 66 of 540 complaints addressed

Of the 540 complaints on the Single Use Plastic (SUP) public grievance portal, the state government has resolved a meagre 66 between July 2020 and May 2026.

The situation is not different in other states, with the governments addressing fewer complaints.

The CPCB has asked authorities to resolve all of them.

Pulse polio programme on June 28

BENGALURU, DHNS: The pulse polio programme will be held across the state on June 28, with the objective of administering polio drops to all children aged up to five years, said Rithvik Pandey, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department.

Although India has remained a polio-free country for more than 14 years, the precautionary campaign continues to be essential as the Wild Polio Virus (WPV) is still circulating in some parts of the world.

On the first day, polio drops will be administered at designated polio booths. Special focus will be placed on children from migrant communities, and those living in high-risk areas and urban slums.

FORGOTTEN MONEY IN YOUR OLD BANK ACCOUNTS?

RBI will help you recover what's yours.

Money in Inoperative Accounts (inactive for more than 2 years and up to 10 years) lying with your bank / Unclaimed Deposits (Beyond 10 years) is transferred to DEA Fund of RBI.
You or your legal heirs can claim it anytime.

3 EASY STEPS TO CLAIM YOUR MONEY

1. Visit any branch of your bank, even if it's not your regular branch
2. Submit a form with KYC documents (Aadhaar, Passport, Voter ID, or Driving Licence)
3. Receive your money with interest, if any, after verification

To find your unclaimed deposits

Search your bank's website or check RBI's UDGAM portal **(https://udgam.rbi.org.in)** covering 30 banks currently.

For more details, visit **https://rbikehtahai.rbi.org.in**
For feedback, write to **rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in**
Official WhatsApp No. **99990 41935**

Issued in public interest by
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

◆IN THE CITY◆

GENERAL

Camp: To create awareness among manual scavengers; Organised by Dr Babu Jagajeevan Ram Research Institute; Babu Mathew and Murali Ashok Salappa to participate; Dr Regional institute of English South India, Jnanabharathi campus; 9.30 am.

Indian tea coffee expo: KH Muniyappa to inaugurate; Bangalore International Exhibition Centre; 11.30 am.

Lecture: 'Conservation of Environment' to commemorate Environment Day; Lalitha K Hosapeti to deliver the lecture; Sudhamani, Vasundhara Bhupathi and others to take part; Organised by U Bhupathi Memorial Trust; Government Model Primary School, Peenya; 2 pm.

Graduate Day celebrations: Organised by Sir M Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology; KN Satyanarayana to inaugurate; College campus, Krishnadevaraya Nagar; 2 pm.

CULTURAL

Bharatanatyam performance: By Priya Ganesh and students; Organised by Samudhbhava Art and Culture Institute; Nanjangud Raghavendra Swamy Mutt, Jayanagar; 6 pm.

Play: 'Sharmishte'; Umashree to perform; Directed by Chidambara Rao Jambe; Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; 7.30 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with light rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	29.9°C
Minimum	21.8°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as f 5:30 pm)	62%
Sunset (June 11)	6:45 pm
Sunrise (June 12)	5:53 am
Moonrise	1:21 am
Moonset	1:56 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

DH DECCAN HERALD
Please contact for subscription/ service queries
(late receipt, non receipt or irregular supply of newspaper)
: 9008366666
: support@deccanherald.co.in

DH BENGALURU 2040 SUMMIT
Supported by BAYER
AGRI INNOVATION SUMMIT

BUILDING SMARTER, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Bayer and Deccan Herald came together for the 'Agri Innovation Summit', centred around **Smart Tech & Innovations for Sustainable Agriculture**, bringing together eminent voices to explore how digital and AI-driven technologies are transforming agriculture, driving productivity, improving efficiency, and enabling more sustainable farming practices.

Scan to discover the future of farming.

Simon Thorsten Wiebusch
CEO,
Bayer CropScience Ltd

Dr. Puthra G. T.
Director,
Department of Agriculture,
Karnataka

Dr. M. S. Sheshshayee
Professor and Emeritus Professor,
University of Agricultural Sciences,
Bangalore

Rashmit Singh Sukhmani
Founder and Chief Technology Officer
SatSure

Follow us on:

CM seeks Centre's nod for RRTS lines linking B'luru with 5 nearby cities

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Wednesday sought the Centre's approval for building the Regional Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) lines connecting Bengaluru to Mysuru, Kanakpura, Tumakuru, Chikkaballapur and Kolar.

During a meeting with Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal Khattar in New Delhi, Shivakumar stated that these RRTS lines could be developed like the Delhi-NCR RRTS corridors that connect the capital with neighbouring cities. India's first RRTS connects Delhi with Meerut.

RRTS lines connect cities located 50-200 km apart and trains operate at an average speed of 100 kmph. Unlike the Indian Railways' broad gauge (1,676 mm) lines, RRTS trains operate on standard gauge (1,435 mm). While both use 25kV AC for their Overhead Electrical Equipment (OHE), the RRTS requires dedicated tracks.

In August 2025, Shivakumar urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to sanction five RRTS lines spanning 394 km.

The proposed lines included Bengaluru-Bidadi-Mysuru (145 km), Bengaluru-Harohalli-Kanakapura (60 km), Bengaluru-Nelamangala-Tumakuru (60 km), Bengaluru-Kempegowda International Airport-Chikkaballapur (64 km) and Bengaluru-Hoskote-Kolar (65 km).

The chief minister's endorsement of RRTS lines could well end proposals to build metro corridors to Tumakuru, Harohalli, Bidadi, Devanahalli and Hoskote. The BMRCL has conducted the feasibility study of these lines.

Venkateshaiah is additional revenue commissioner

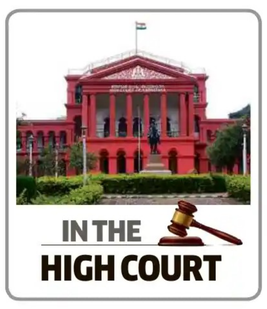
BENGALURU, DHNS: KAS officer Dr Venkateshaiah, who was serving as the director of the Agricultural Marketing Department, was transferred on Wednesday as the additional revenue commissioner.

When Siddaramaiah was the chief minister, Venkateshaiah had served as his private secretary.

Just before Siddaramaiah resigned, Venkateshaiah had been transferred to the Agricultural Marketing Department.

Reinstate teacher disabled in bid to save kid: HC to school

Asks it to make reasonable accommodations set out by her



AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The high court has directed a private school to provide a formal written offer of reinstatement with specific reasonable accommodations set out by a teacher who became traumatically paraplegic after a fall while attempting to save a student at school.

"If the school accepts the offer of reinstatement within 30 days of receiving such offer, the school shall ensure her reinstatement with seniority counted from her original date of appointment," Justice Suraj Govindaraj said in his order, while upholding Rs 10 lakh compensation awarded to Barnali Rout, who was working at PSBB Learning Leadership Academy at Jigani in Bengaluru.

Rout had joined the school as a teacher in 2008. On August 22, 2013, a class six student stepped out under the windowsill of the school building and threatened to jump off. The student feared action as she was caught changing her marks in some subject papers. While other teachers engaged the student in conversation, it is stated that she voluntarily attempted to go onto the windowsill to save the student, but fell to the ground. The teacher sustained serious injuries, while the student too sustained injuries as she too fell on the ground.

On June 12, 2020, the state commissioner for PWDs (persons with disabilities), Karnataka, passed an order directing the school to pay Rs 10 lakh as compensation.

Challenging this order, the school management contended that since it is a private institution, the state commissioner for PWDs had no jurisdiction.

On the other hand, it was argued on behalf of Rout that the medical expenses incurred by her was over Rs 40 lakh. It was informed to the court that the school paid Rs 6 lakh towards the initial hospital bill and that Rs 10 lakh compensation awarded by the commissioner was modest and reasonable.

It was further submitted that the school management turned down her request to continue her work with suitable accommodation.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj held that the state commissioner for PwDs had power under section 80(b) read with section 81 of the Disabilities Act to issue binding corrective directions against private establishments, including directions to pay compensation.

"The direction of Rs 10 lakh is a conservative fraction of the teacher's documented expenses exceeding Rs 46 lakh. It is not arbitrary," the court said.

SOP for universal accessibility

The court has issued standard operating procedure (SOP) for universal accessibility, applicable to all government establishments, public commercial buildings, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, transport infrastructure, religious and cultural places, residential and housing developments, etc.

The chief secretary/ principal secretary of women and child development department is directed to set up the state accessibility authority within 6 months to enable monitoring as well as enforcement of accessibility norms in all the buildings.

Metro Ph3 with double-decker...

Metro, from Page 1

The state decided to include the double-decker at an extra cost of Rs 9,700 crore, believing that would help avoid future requirements to widen the road.

However, the ministry raised concerns over the socio-economic viability of the entire project, noting that building a flyover along the alignment would discourage metro passengers.

The RITES report found that, even with the double-decker, the project's EIRR will be 15.9%, down from the original 17.04% (without the double-decker) but well above the minimum of 14%%, indicating that the benefits to society would be greater than the cost of capital. The feasibility-cum-DPR of the double-decker had put the EIRR at 16.5%.

"The ministry raised the concerns purely on a technical basis. RITES addresses that. The final report will be along similar lines. We're confident of securing the BMRCL board's approval," one of the sources said.

Phase 3 will have two lines: A 32.5-km corridor from JP Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura along the Outer Ring Road, and a 12.15-km corridor from Hosahalli to Kadabagere along Magadi Road.

There were also concerns about the height of the alignment at one junction. At Mysuru Road, where the new station will run above the existing Purple Line station, the rail level will be 32 metres, taller than the Jayadeva Hospital station.

"The Mysuru Road station will be unusually tall due to the natural road gradient. If we don't increase the height, the metro line may impact the adjacent railway line," the source said. "The height will pose challenges during construction, but it's not impossible."

Following the ministry's objections, the BMRCL floated tenders for only 18.581 km in January and has revised the bid submission deadline multiple times, another source said.

On Wednesday, Chief Minister D K Shivakumar visited Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal Khattar in Delhi and requested that the BMRCL be allowed to go ahead with the double-decker in view of the city's traffic situation.

He also sought early approval for Phase 2's revised cost, which increased by Rs 9,729.9 crore to Rs 40,425.02 crore. He also asked for the Centre's nod for the Sarjapur-Hebbal Phase 3A (37.8 km). Its revised DPR, with an estimated cost of Rs 25,999 crore, was submitted to the ministry on April 29.

Phase 3A land acquisition will cost another Rs 950 crore, a third source said.

BECKONING IN BLACK & RED

A vendor selling seasonal fruits like jamun, litchi and plum waits for customers on New BEL Road in Bengaluru on Wednesday. DH PHOTO/RANJU P

Renukaswamy murder case: HC bins plea for bail cancellation

BENGALURU, DHNS: The high court on Wednesday dismissed the petition filed by the state seeking cancellation of bail granted to the five accused in the Renukaswamy murder case.

Actor Darshan and his friend Pavitra Gowda, both of whom are among the accused, have been placed in judicial custody. Justice S Rachaiah rejected the petitions.

The petitions were filed by the prosecution seeking cancellation of bail granted to Dhanraju D (accused no 9), Puttaswamy alias Pavan K and Raghavendra (accused no 3 and 4, respectively), Nandeesh (accused no 5) and V Vinay (accused no 10). They were granted bail by the trial court on December 23, 2024.

TN CM Joseph Vijay to visit Kollur temple tomorrow

UDUPI, DHNS: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay will visit Kollur Sri Mookambika Temple on June 12.

Joseph Vijay

Vijay will arrive in a special flight to Mangaluru International Airport at 12.30 pm and later will travel to Kollur by road. He will visit the temple at 3 pm and will offer special prayers at the temple.

Fans are likely to gather at important junctions along the route where Vijay, who has Z-plus security, will travel.

Previous Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu M G Ramachandran, Janaki Ramachandran, and Jayalalithaa, had visited Kollur.

US strikes Iran after blaming Tehran for helicopter crash

Iran, from Page 1

"They've taken too long to negotiate a deal that would have been great for them, now they will have to pay the price!!!" Trump posted.

It wasn't clear what exactly that would mean, but the back-and-forth strikes on Wednesday again raised the question of how much pressure the deal can take before it cracks. The exchange of fire was the second time this week that such strikes have tested the ceasefire after Iran and Israel targeted each other on Monday.

In the latest strikes, US fighter jets targeted "air defence, ground control stations, and surveillance radar sites," the military's Central Command said. Iran acknowledged strikes around Bandar Abbas and Qeshm Island, but gave no details on the damage.

"The operation was a proportional response to recent attacks on US forces and international commercial ships transiting regional waters," Central Command said.

Iran's top diplomat vowed that there would be a response, and Tehran later claimed attacks in Kuwait, Bahrain and Jordan. Jordan said it shot down five incoming missiles, which Iran said targeted the Muwaffaq Salti Air Base. The base has hosted American F-35 fighter jets and other aircraft.wBahrain and Kuwait said they intercepted incoming fire, without elaborating.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi condemned the American attacks as a violation of Iranian sovereignty in calls with his counterparts from Turkey and Saudi Arabia, and emphasised the inherent right of self-defence, including reciprocal action," according to a post on his office's Telegram channel.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said in televised comments on Wednesday that in light of the new attacks, Iran would review its stance on negotiations to end the war.

Encroachment case against ex-speaker: Govt sidesteps forest dept

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

A month after the forest department directed Legislative Assembly former speaker K R Ramesh Kumar to vacate over 60 acres of encroached forest land, the government seems to have gone out of its way to help the senior Congress leader by sidelining forest authorities in a legal case.

The chief conservator of forests (CCF), Bengaluru circle, had in April passed an order in the case dating back to August 2003, in which Kumar was accused of encroaching 60 acres 34 guntas of Janikalkunte reserved forest in Hosahudya village of Srinivaspur taluk in Kolar district. Kumar had approached the high court specifically challenging the CCF's order.

However, as per the documents accessed by *DH*, the government has appointed a tahsildar as litigation officer in the case, where revenue authorities have no role.

The move has prompted the forest department's legal cell to write to the additional chief secretary, forest, ecology and environment department, requesting urgent intervention to change the litigation officer and assign an advocate well versed in forest matters.

In the letter, a copy of which is available with *DH*, the additional PCCF (legal cell) said the deputy conservator of forests (DCF), Kolar, was the right candidate to argue the matter which pertains to the forest department.

"It is proposed that instead of tahsildar, Srinivaspur taluk, the Kolar DCF be made the litigation officer and additional advocate general Kiran Ron as government advocate in the case," the letter said, requesting that steps be taken for withdrawal of the order issued by the revenue department.

In fact, the case had moved at a slow pace against Kumar, who had represented Srinivaspur in the Assembly and held key posts, including the constitutional post of speaker.

Multiple petitions were filed before the HC to prompt the forest department to act.

In June 2011, the department issued an eviction order to Kumar, who then moved the forest and revenue departments, and also the judiciary.

'Sabotaging legal battle'

After conducting four joint surveys, the forest department was told to look into the case again. This led to the April hearing, when the CCF dismissed Kumar's claim to the land as 'untenable'. Days later, Kumar approached the HC. As per his writ petition filed on April 15, the main prayer is for quashing the CCF's order.

As the court issued notice, the government issued an order dated May 2, directing the Srinivaspur tahsildar to furnish all particulars, parawise remarks and records required in the case to the government advocate. "The tahsildar shall be the litigation-conducting officer and swearing officer and he shall sign the concerned statement of objections and swear affidavit, which may be required to be filed in this connection," says the order issued on behalf of the governor by the revenue department.

Sources in the forest department said leaving the matter of the forest to the tahsildar was nothing but a legal route adopted to sabotage the case to help the Congress leader.

"First, Kumar's case is challenging the CCF order and the government can't ask someone other than the forest officer concerned to defend the matter. Second, it is a reserved forest on which no revenue officer has any authority. Every inch of the land is protected by the forest (conservation) Act," the source added.

Revenue department additional chief secretary Rajender Kumar Kataria said, "We have built a robust system to ensure that the government is represented at the earliest. The Court Case Monitoring System automatically alerts the section concerned, which in turn puts up a file before the litigation section. This particular writ petition had named the revenue department as the first respondent. The deputy secretary has appointed a revenue officer (tahsildar) as per power delegated to him. We will take inputs of the forest department," he said.

5th survey after then CM'S order

A week before he resigned as chief minister, Siddaramaiah directed the revenue department to conduct a joint survey to assess the status of Ramesh Kumar's land possession.

Documents available with DH show that Siddaramaiah was responding to a memorandum submitted by Kumar. In a letter to Kumar, the Bengaluru division regional commissioner stated that the chief minister, on May 20, issued instructions to the department to take steps "as per the orders of the high court".

If carried out, this will be the fifth joint survey in Kumar's case. Interestingly, the fourth joint survey was conducted following the orders of the high court.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Obituaries & Remembrance Advertisements
Log on to : https://homages.deccanherald.com
or
Scan QR code to access booking form

Vaikunta Samaradhane

Smt. D. Gowramma
(Wife of Late Sri. P. Narasimhaiah (Excise Contractor)
With deep sorrow, we inform you of the demise of our beloved mother on Monday 1st June 2026.
Vaikunta Samaradhana will be held on Thursday, 11-06-2026, 7-00 p.m. at our residence # 510, 46th Cross, 5th Block, 9th Main Road, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560 041 (Side by Mugdha Silk Saree Showroom)
We request all Relatives & Friends to join us in offering prayers for the eternal peace of the departed soul.
Deeply mourned by,
Childrens & Grand Childrens

DH Classifieds
More value, more impact
email: classifieds@deccanherald.co.in
For your Classified Advertisements, Contact:
080 - 45557160 /161/ 162/ 163/ 164/
98451 14560 / 97318 10277/ 9886213331

REAL ESTATE SELLING
Agricultural Land
General
FOR SALE: Agricultural land, 1.38 acres, Sy.No:108/2, Shivanahalli, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Dist. Owner: Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, Kolkata. Contact (10AM-1PM): 9480993407 / rkmission.halli@gmail.com

BUSINESS
Business to Business
Finance
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY Property Investors Fully Secured Layout Project Best Returns 1year Project. Genuine's Only. 9902678314

PERSONAL
Announcements
I, KEKA MUKERJEE spouse of 656434N Rank Ex-Sgt GOPAL MUKHERJEE resident of No.12, 1st Main Ayyappa Nagar Kodigehalli Bengaluru-560036 Karnataka Have corrected my Date of Birth from 06-01-1969 to 03-01-2026 vide affidavit dated 09-06-2026 and notary Mr.Manjunath.T (20053)Bengaluru.

Change of Name
SMT. G. VIJAYALAKSHMI, wife of Sri V. Gurumurthy, aged about 58 years, R/at No. 838, 1st Floor, Opposite to Ishanya India Foundation, J.P.Nagar 2nd Phase, Bengaluru- 560078, G.VIJAYALAKSHMI, VIJAYALAKSHMI.G and NATARATAN VIJAYALAKSHMI all refer to one and the same person, which is myself. Vide affidavit dated 08.06.2026, Sworn before Advocate and Notary A Manjunath, Bengaluru.

CONNECT

dastkari haat
SILK WEAVES EXPO
INDIA'S BIGGEST SILK EXPO SILK MAHOTSAV
EXHIBITION-CUM-SALE
Silks - Linens - Cotton - Wedding Ethnics
Wedding & Summer Edition
UPTO 60% OFF!
STARTS TODAY
11 - 16 June
11 am to 9 pm
Premachandra Hall
NEAR ASHOKA PILLAR, JAYANAGAR 1ST BLOCK, BENGALURU 560011
Contact 9541975990 FREE ENTRY AND PARKING

I M.C.SHEKAR S/o M.Bheemasena Rao , No 551,1st cross, 15th Main, BSK I Stage Bangalore 560050 have changed my Name to Mankal Chandra Shekar vide affidavit dtd 8.6.2026 before Notary /Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SWATI RAMNARAYAN SHANDILYA W/o Mobin Kurien, R/at No.B3,Shilpitha Cascade, 6th G Cross, Balaji Layout, Kaggadasapura, Bengaluru- 93, have changed my name to SWATI SHANDILYA vide affidavit dt:10-06-2026 sworn before notary S.I.Balaguru, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as SWATI SHANDILYA only.

I, THARUN S V, S/o. S V Narayana, R/at No.37, Sri Rama Mandira Road, Gowda Muniswamy Garden, Ejipura, Bengaluru-560047 here by declare that "SANGISETTI VENKATA THARUN" and "THARUN S V" both the names belongs to me only. Henceforth i shall be called in future as THARUN S V only. vide affidavit dt: 09.06.2026 before notary B M Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CAUTION NOTICE
Readers are advised to make appropriate thorough enquiries before acting upon any advertisement. This newspaper does not vouch or subscribe to the claims and representations made by advertisers.
Advertisement Manager
The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd. Bengaluru

Bitcoin scam: Names of BJP leaders will emerge, claims Priyank

SIT has already named Cong MLA Haris' elder son as an accused

BENGALURU, DHNS

Home Minister Priyank Kharge on Wednesday made a sensational claim that names of BJP leaders will also emerge in the Bitcoin scam.

He was responding to reporters following a *DH* report that the Karnataka police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) named Congress MLA N A Haris' elder son, Mohammed Haris Nalapad, as an accused in the multi-crore high-profile case.

"As per my knowledge, there are many other names, including those of BJP leaders (in the scam). It will also come forward," Priyank said.

"He who eats salt must drink water. We have done it transparently. The criminal case (CC) number is yet to be finalised for the SIT charge sheet. We don't have any confusion regarding this. What is wrong is wrong. We can't justify it."

Priyank also said that if Mohammed was issued a summons by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is also probing the Bitcoin scam separately, he will appear when he is called. "Who controls ED? Who controls CBI and IT? Is it being done selectively? You should ask ED this," Priyank said.

DH reported on Wednesday that the SIT filed a charge sheet in a Bengaluru court on May 20, naming Mohammed, 36, as one of the key beneficiaries of the 60.6 Bitcoins stolen by serial hacker Srikrishna Ramesh alias Sriki from a Tumakuru-based Unocoin crypto exchange in 2017.

Cryptocurrency value over Rs 35 cr

At the time, the stolen cryptocurrency was valued at Rs 1.14 crore. Its value, as of Tuesday, was over Rs 35 crore. This is one of the nine cases in the Bitcoin scam being probed by the SIT.

As per the SIT charge sheet, Mohammed is accused of facilitating the conversion of cryptocurrency into cash. The money was allegedly routed through hawala channels. Apart from Mohammed, the chargesheet also names Sriki and his accountant Robin Khandelwal.

Sriki, Khandelwal and another associate, Sunish Hegde, were last month remanded in judicial custody following their arrest by the ED.

Don't spend on garlands, donate to party: Hariprasad to partymen

BENGALURU, DHNS: Newly appointed state Congress president B K Hariprasad on Wednesday appealed to his cadre not to spend money on garlands, bouquets and ceremonial shawls to felicitate him and instead contribute that money to the party.

"Many people are coming home with shawls and garlands to greet me. If you want to honour me, don't spend money on shawls or flowers. Donate that amount to the Congress as the party has only Rs 700 crore in its treasury, unlike BJP which has Rs 10,000 crore," claimed Hariprasad, while addressing party workers.

Referring to election surveys conducted by KPCC working presidents G C Chandrasekhar and Manjunath Bhandary, Hariprasad said workers with a realistic chance of winning would be given tickets even if they lacked financial resources. He reassured grassroots workers that "merit and commitment" would be the key criteria for ticket distribution in the upcoming Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) elections.

Noting that the next two years belong to the Congress workers, he reminded them of a packed election calendar and called upon them to work unitedly to defeat BJP and RSS. He will formally take charge of the post at Palace Grounds on June 21.

"Hariprasad wanted a simple event in the party office. But we decided against a modest event as Congress is a national party with a 140-year-old history. We expect a huge turnout of party workers when Chief Minister D K Shivakumar will hand over responsibility to Hariprasad," Chandrashekhar said.

'Show me law under which RSS is exempted from accountability'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Home Minister Priyank Kharge on Wednesday offered to visit the headquarters of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's (RSS) in the city to understand under what law the Hindu nationalist organisation was exempted from registering with the government.

Alternatively, Priyank invited RSS leaders to his office to review the legal status of the organisation.

"Let the RSS call me to its Keshava Krupa headquarters. Let them show me the law under which they are exempted from being accountable to the government," Priyank said. "Or, let them come to my office with documents. Let them show how they are exempt from Constitutional provisions. I will evaluate it. If I'm wrong, I'll apologise. Otherwise, let them make amends," he said.

Priyank has been gunning for the registration of the RSS, which its Sarsanghachalak Dr Mohan Bhagwat has described as 'a body of individuals'.

In November last year, Bhagwat said: "We are categorised as (a) body of individuals. And we are a recognised organisation. The income tax department asked us to pay income tax, and there was litigation. The court said, 'This is a body of individuals and our guru dakshina (donation) was exempted from income tax'."

Priyank remains unconvinced. "In a country where even a street vendor must register, temples and Gods must account for every donation received and citizens must file tax returns, how is the RSS exempted? Can they do whatever they want?" he said.

"They keep referring to themselves as a body of individuals. Even Bangalore Club is a body of individuals," he said.

In a tweet after taking charge as the home minister, Priyank asked the RSS to "keep your documents ready" for registration. In the past, Priyank has claimed that the Congress government would introduce a law to get the RSS registered.

The minister's tweet garnered an attack from senior BJP leader C T Ravi, who said prime ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi tried to ban the RSS and failed.

"I don't think C T Ravi knows his history. RSS leaders fell at the feet of Nehru and Sardar Patel after the organisation was banned. When Indira Gandhi banned the RSS, its sarsanghachalak wrote a long, appreciative letter supporting the Emergency," Priyank said, dubbing the RSS as "cowards."

Not interested in seeking nomination to RS: Gowda

BENGALURU, DHNS

Former Prime Minister and JD(S) supremo H D Deve Gowda's absence on the list of candidates nominated to the Rajya Sabha from Karnataka triggered a controversy, with Congress and BJP leaders trading barbs over the issue. On Wednesday, however, Gowda sought to clear the air on the issue, making it plain that his relationship with PM Narendra Modi went beyond seeking a nomination to a Rajya Sabha seat.

Confirming that he had not sought another term in the Rajya Sabha, Gowda said, "Had I been keen on it, I would have discussed it with the PM and Union Home Minister. My relationship with Modi goes beyond that. I met both the leaders at an event in the third week of May. I did not broach the subject of my Rajya Sabha nomination as I was not interested."

Reiterating his position on not being interested in securing another term in the Upper House of the Parliament, the former PM said, "Public service is more important to me than holding any office; I have been engaged in public service for seven decades."

Former prime minister H D Deve Gowda arrives to address a press conference.

Queried about Congress leaders' statements on the issue, Gowda dubbed them 'lip sympathy'. "I am well aware of the behaviour of those making these remarks, and I don't pay much attention to them," he said.

It's foolish to think my relationship with Modi will sour over one Rajya Sabha seat, said Gowda. "I have known Modi since 2014. I criticised him when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat, but over the years, I have come to understand him well, and trust him. I share a personal relationship with Modi, which will endure regardless of whether I am in Parliament or not," added the JD(S) supremo.

Gowda's Parliamentary innings is slated to end on June 25 with the completion of his current term in the Rajya Sabha. Recalling his long political journey, he said, "I have been in politics since 1954-55, when I ventured into the field to address grievances of the public, while working as a contractor. I have been with the people, and I don't crave any position. I will not sit idle. I will continue to work for the party and its workers."

In Delhi meet with KBG, CM breaks ice over portfolio grouse

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Senior minister Krishna Byre Gowda, miffed over the 'incomplete' allocation of key related departments to him as the Bengaluru development minister, met Chief Minister D K Shivakumar here on Wednesday, with the latter assuring him that his concerns would be addressed soon.

Gowda raised the issue of the Bengaluru development portfolio being allotted to him without BDA and BMRDA, both of which continue to remain with the CM.

According to sources, Shivakumar assured Gowda that they would discuss the matter in detail after returning to Bengaluru and resolve it at the earliest.

The CM advised Gowda against escalating the portfolio allocation issue to the party high command, a suggestion the minister agreed to. Though Gowda was not available for comment, sources told *DH* that the meeting helped ease the situation.

Later in the night, he attended a dinner meeting of Karnataka cadre IAS and IPS officers serving in the central government, convened by the CM at Karnataka Bhavan.

Gowda had arrived in Delhi on Tuesday, primarily to meet Congress general secretary K C Venugopal over his grievances.

He is yet to assume charge as minister.

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar calls on top Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi in New Delhi on Wednesday.

CM vows to weed out fake beneficiaries of guarantees

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Wednesday announced that the government would identify and remove fictitious beneficiaries from its flagship guarantee schemes to prevent misuse, while asserting that all freebies would continue for genuine beneficiaries.

"We want only real beneficiaries to get the benefit of the schemes," he told reporters here. This is his first visit to the national capital after taking over as CM.

Pointing out irregularities in the implementation of the schemes, he said, in the Gruhalakshmi scheme, multiple women from the same family were receiving payments, instead of only the woman head. In some cases, benefits were still being credited to accounts of deceased women, he said.

Under the free electricity scheme, commercial establishments like shops were availing the benefit of the scheme meant only for domestic consumers, he said.

"We aim to ensure that the voters of Karnataka truly benefit from these schemes," the chief minister emphasised.

Shivakumar described solid waste management in Bengaluru as a major challenge, alleging that a "big mafia" currently controlled it.

He said the government had decided to dismantle the garbage mafia and set up a waste-to-energy plant on the city's outskirts.

An investor has come forward to establish the plant with an investment of Rs 6,000 crore, he informed.

Slamming the leader of the Opposition, R Ashoka, for raising corruption allegations in solid waste management tenders, Shivakumar said, "He is speaking as if he is a spokesman of the garbage mafia. There is no truth in the allegation of corruption. Let them demand a probe and find out if there is any corruption."

Sluggish growth cunningly given...

Modi, From Page 1

At the meeting, a resolution was passed congratulating Modi on his achievement. Several NDA CMs took part in the meeting, with Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu proposing the motion, and Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio seconding it.

A resolution passed by the leaders said that by completing 4,399 days in office, Modi has surpassed "a milestone that had stood for 62 years". "In the intervening period, India witnessed 13 Prime Ministers, underscoring the exceptional nature of PM Modi's accomplishment. He has won the confidence of the people repeatedly," the resolution said.

"From being among the 'Fragile Five', India has emerged as one of the world's leading economies and is the fastest-growing major economy. Global confidence in India has reached unprecedented levels, as seen, for example, in the 15 trade deals (covering 38 nations) signed in recent times. The world agrees that if one wants investment, innovation and long-term growth, India is the place to be," the resolution read, adding that 32 nations conferred their honour on Modi.

In a speech at the meeting, Naidu lauded Modi for bringing in development. Maharashtra Deputy CM Eknath Shinde, too, praised Modi.

During the meeting, Modi also said the next stage of development will be driven by the states, and urged them to get into healthy competition.

Day after release of...

Kukis, from Page 1

The 14 Kukis and the six Nagas were among those who were abducted following the killing of three church leaders belonging to the Thadou tribe, in Kangpokpi district on May 13. At least 28 people — 14 each from the two communities- were released on May 15, but 20 others remained untraceable.

On Tuesday, the United Naga Council (UNC) released the 14 Kukis, citing an assurance given by Home Minister Amit Shah through Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio that the whereabouts of the six abducted persons would be ascertained within 48 hours.

The UNC and several others across the Northeast had appealed to the Kuki organisations to reciprocate the UNC's gesture by releasing the six Nagas.

But uncertainty prevailed over the fate of the six Nagas as Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), an apex body of the Kukis, clarified that they had no clue about the whereabouts of the missing Nagas.

"We will remain cooperative with the government," KIM spokesperson, Janghaolun Haokip, had told *DH* on Tuesday evening.

"This is most unacceptable and gross violation of human rights and disrespect for the dignity of the human persons. We consider this as a direct challenge to the collective identity and security of Naga people," the UNC said.

The group alleged involvement of Kuki National Front-P, an armed group, and demanded declaring it as a terrorist group. The UNC also refused to accept the bodies till abrogation of the Suspension of Operations agreement with the Kuki armed groups and removal of deputy Chief Minister, Nemcha Kipgen, a Kuki.

The KIM condemned the killings of the six Nagas and appealed to all stakeholders to "exercise restraint, maintain peace and refrain from speculation or the spread of unverified information that could further inflame tensions."

Living with trauma, families of AI crash victims grapple for answers

AI crash, from Page 1

The initial report had kicked up a row as it indicated lapses on the part of pilots. Pushkaraj Sabharwal, father of deceased Captain Sumeet Sabharwal, and the Federation of Indian Pilots moved the Supreme Court seeking a court-monitored inquiry.

While grappling for an answer as to what exactly happened to the flight, the victims' families are also struggling to escape the trauma, with some of them on medication and psychiatric support.

For 61-year-old Girdharbhai Kalavadiya, life has taken a drastic turn ever since the air crash. His elder son Mahesh Jeerawala, a locally known filmmaker and media person, was among the 19 people who were killed on the ground due to the crash impact. Girdharbhai had reported his son as missing. Later, the police found his call location from the crash site. They also found his burnt two-wheeler and other belongings.

"What can I say...No report would bring him back now," Girdharbhai says.

For the family of 20-year-old Rakesh Diyora from Bhavnagar, the dream of seeing a family member as an MBBS doctor crashed on that afternoon, too. His parents are finding it difficult to come out of the loss.

"My mother refuses to live in the city due to her fear of aircraft flying overhead. As a result, she prefers to stay in the village. Both my mother and father have struggled to recover from the shock. They continue to take sleeping medication and seek psychiatric support," says Vipul Diyora, brother of Rakesh.

Rakesh would have been the first person in his immediate and extended family to become a qualified doctor.

Along with Rakesh, three other medical students — Aryan Rajput, Jai Prakash and Manav Bhadu — lost their lives in the tragedy. They were having lunch when the plane crashed into the canteen building.

Deccan Herald-Prajavani Relief Fund

Prajavani and Deccan Herald, with the support of generous donors, provide financial assistance to meritorious students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who have secured the highest marks in the SSLC examination.

Donations may be made online to the Deccan Herald-Prajavani Relief Trust.

The names of donors contributing Rs 5,000 or more will be published in the newspapers. Donations made to the Trust are eligible for income-tax exemption under the applicable provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Donors may contribute online by scanning the QR code provided or by using the link **https://bit.ly/3xFpoz4**

Please note: Cheques, cash and demand drafts (DDs) will not be accepted.

'Rs 39k-cr garbage scam in GBA'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R Ashoka on Wednesday accused the ruling Congress of taking a kickback of Rs 10,000 crore in an alleged "Rs 39,000-crore garbage processing scam" in the GBA.

Addressing a press conference, Ashoka said, "During the previous BJP government, Bengaluru had earned the distinction of being the cleanest city. Now, the Congress government has executed a shocking 39,000-crore garbage scam. This is the first time in the country's history that such a massive loot has occurred in the name of garbage. This is a 'black money tribute' tender to the high command."

Instead of the usual annual tenders, a 30-year contract with a possible five-year extension has been awarded.

The contract was given to Delhi's MSWS Solutions Ltd or its parent company, Ramky, the LoP said, adding that the contract had been divided into two packages: North and South Bengaluru.

He noted that the Ramky company, whose sister concern, MSWS company, was awarded the tender, was "blacklisted" by the World Bank. The erstwhile BBMP had itself cancelled Ramky's contract in 2016, he added.

Ashoka alleged that the government ignored expert advice from its own rights company and instead gave the consultancy to an unqualified company.

"Currently, the tipping fee is Rs 260 per tonne. Under the new tender, this jumps to Rs 2,400 per tonne — a 950% increase. If the old rates had continued, the cost for 30 years would have been Rs 6,117 crore. Under the new tender, it rises to Rs 39,437 crore."

Ashoka said, "The Finance Department raised objections regarding awarding both packages to a single company, the 30-year long duration, and the 5% annual escalation. It advised reducing the period to 10 years and the escalation to 2.5%, warning that otherwise it would become a huge burden on the BBMP in the future. Additional Chief Secretary Ritesh Kumar Singh wrote to the chief minister, highlighting the flaws in the tender."

Later, a delegation of BJP leaders met Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot and complained to him about the "scam". The BJP leaders subsequently also lodged a complaint with the Lokayukta.

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
DAVANAGERE NIRMITHI KENDRA
Cost Effective Building Materials & Technology Transfer Center
(Sponssored by Govt of India, HUDCO& Govt.of Karnataka)
Office: Davanagere Nirmithi Kendra, Bakkeshwara Rice Mill Road, Industrial Area, DAVANAGERE–577005.
Email: nkdvg@rediffmail.com
NK/DVG/Outsource Agency Tender/2026-27 Date: 08.06.2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ
ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ (Outsource) ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಭವ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್/ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
ಅವಶ್ಯಕ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ವಿವರ: **(1) ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಹಾಯಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ.**
ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳ ಅರ್ಹತೆ: ◆ ಜಿಎಸ್ಟಿ, ಇಪಿಎಫ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಇಎಸ್ಐ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ◆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 10 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅನುಭವ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ◆ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪರವಾನಗಿ ಪತ್ರ ಪಡೆದಿರಬೇಕು (Labour License). ◆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ/ಅರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅನುಭವಕ್ಕೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ◆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಜಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು.
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣಾ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **11.06.2026.**
ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **19.06.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 05:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.**
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ nkdvg@rediffmail.com ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಈ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನ್ನು ಅಂಗೀಕರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರವು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ವಿಳಾಸ: **ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಬಕ್ಕೇಶ್ವರ ರೈಸ್ ಮಿಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಲೋಕಿಕೆರೆ ಇಂಡಸ್ಟ್ರೀಯಲ್ ಏರಿಯಾ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.**
ಸಹಿ/– ಯೋಜನಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು,
ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Under Section 130(1)(b) read with 130(2) of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016)

For the attention of the Creditors of Smt. Nuzhat Aisha Naseer, Sri. Naseer Ahmed and Sri. Awaiz Ahmed - Personal Guarantors to M/s. Scotts Garments Limited (CIN: U18101KA2002PLC030185)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS

1.	Name and Address of the Personal Guarantors	**1. Smt. Nuzhat Aisha Naseer,** No. 391, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, 80 Feet Road, RMV Extension, Bengaluru – 560 094 **2. Sri. Naseer Ahmed,** No. 391, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, 80 Feet Road, RMV Extension, Bengaluru – 560 094. **3. Sri. Awaiz Ahmed,** No. 391, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, 80 Feet Road, RMV Extension, Bengaluru – 560 094
2.	Details of the order & Bankruptcy Commencement date in respect of Debtors/ Personal Guarantors	1. Smt. Nuzhat Aisha Naseer: CP (IB) No.06/BB/2021 on 08th June 2026 2. Sri. Naseer Ahmed: CP (IB) No.07/BB/2021 on 08th June 2026 3. Sri. Awaiz Ahmed: CP (IB) No.08/BB/2021 on 08th June 2026
3.	Name, registration number, email id and address of the Insolvency Professional acting as Bankruptcy Trustee (BT) for correspondence	**Ravindra Beleyur** IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00189/2017-18/10368 No.428, 19th B Cross, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 011 Tele: +91 80 26540193 Process Email ID: bankruptcy.trustee.pgs.scott@beleyur.com Email: ravi@beleyur.com
4.	Last date for submission of claims	25th June 2026

Notice is hereby given that the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru has ordered the commencement of the Bankruptcy process against the Personal Guarantors to M/s. Scotts Garments Limited – Smt. Nuzhat Aisha Naseer, Sri. Naseer Ahmed and Sri. Awaiz Ahmed vide orders dated 08th June 2026. (Copy of the order Received on 10th June 2026)

Creditors of the above Personal Guarantorss are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before 25th June 2026 at the address mentioned against entry No. 3.

Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties

Date: 10.06.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Ravindra Beleyur
Reg. No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00189/2017-18/10368

K'taka Rashtra Samithi chief booked for remarks on farmers

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru South district police have registered a case against the president of the Karnataka Rashtra Samithi Party (KRS), Ravi Krishna Reddy, for allegedly using derogatory language in public while referring to farmers who have agreed to part with their land for the Bidadi Township Project.

The FIR was registered against Reddy by Bidadi police on June 8, following a complaint by Rajanna H C. Rajanna told the police that he was one of the farmers who consented to the acquisition of his land for the project.

According to the FIR, on June 6, at around 2.30 pm, Reddy used derogatory language when addressing the gathering of farmers in Byramanagala village. Among other things, Reddy called the farmers who agreed to part with their land racketeers and real estate agents.

Police had initially registered a non-cognizable report (NCR) and, after obtaining the court's permission, converted it into an FIR. Reddy was booked under BNS Section 352 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace).

K'taka sold power worth Rs 423 cr between April and June

Minister credits achievement to demand and energy optimisation

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Energy Department has sold power worth Rs 423 crore to the national grid at Rs 9.08 paise per unit between April and June.

Energy Minister K J George said that the department's study of demand and energy optimisation has helped Karnataka sell excess power at higher prices.

"We have sold power during the April–June period and managed the summer very successfully using energy optimisation. In the meantime, we have also purchased low-cost power during the daytime. In the evening hours, we generated excess power from hydro, thermal, and other sources, which we sold to the national grid," he said.

"This is a great step towards optimisation of power, and Energy Department achievements reflect Karnataka's strategic focus on efficient power generation, grid management, and energy market participation," he said.

Over the years, the power demand has increased and the department has managed it well, he added. According to data from the Energy Department, in 2023–24, the state reached a peak demand of 17,220 MW, with total consumption of 94,982 MU, marking a 24% year-on-year increase. In 2024–25, a peak demand of 18.395 MW was recorded and a total consumption of 92,699 MU, registering a 2% decline.

"During 2025-26, Karnataka recorded its highest ever peak demand of 18,655 MW with total electricity consumption reaching 96,383 MU, reflecting a 4% growth," a statement by the Energy Department said.

Total power from thermal, hydro, gas, solar, wind, and waste-to-energy sources reached 38,041 MU in 2025–26. The projection for 2026–27 is 38,205 MU.

Ready for monsoon

George said the Energy Department is prepared to face the monsoon, adding it will ensure rapid restoration of power following rain and wind-related damage. According to the department, to date, ESCOMs have replaced 33,400 poles, 1,441 transformers, and 343.56 km of power lines. ESCOMs have a robust workforce of 20,012 regular linemen along with 4,883 specially hired monsoon gangmen. Essential material stocks have also been kept ready for swift deployment. A stock of 99,530 poles and 12,733 transformers has been maintained to enable faster response and minimise outage duration across the state.

Kurubas granted over half of BC community halls, hostels

BENGALURU, DHNS

More than half of the community halls and student hostels sanctioned to the backward classes in the current fiscal have gone to organisations and trusts affiliated to the Kuruba community.

According to a government order dated June 3, 80 of the 155 community halls (Samudaya Bhavans) and hostels were sanctioned by the Backward Classes Welfare Department to the Kuruba community at a cost of Rs 208 crore.

Former chief minister Siddaramaiah, widely considered the predominant leader of the Ahinda (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes, SC and STs) bloc, hails from the Kuruba community.

The list of organisations and trusts enlisted to build these 80 community halls and hostels includes Kuruba Sanghas, Kanaka community halls, Beereshwara temple committees, Halumatha Kurubara Sanghas and so on -- affiliated with the Kuruba community.

In the 2026-27 Budget, Rs 30 crore was set aside for "essential infrastructure" to BC hostels, Rs 50 crore for repair work of hostel buildings, and 50 buildings to be constructed for post-matric hostels at a unit cost of Rs 5 crore each.

Among others, the Madiwala community got at least seven projects, while other communities like Uppara, Ganiga, Kumbara, and Yadava also got one or more projects.

Community affiliations of a few organisations are not easily discernible, as they do not have community-related names. Critics have objected to the move, arguing that most of the 197 communities in categories 1 and 2A (95 in category 1, 102 in category 2A) of the BC list have not been represented.

"When we are in power, we should not take the bigger share. We must give it to others and then take our share. He (Siddaramaiah) speaks of social justice to all communities but has given to only his community," MLC A H Vishwanath (nominated to the Upper House when BJP was in power) — also a Kuruba — said.

Lamenting that the 46 nomadic and semi-nomadic communities within the OBC list had not got adequate opportunities, former Backward Class Commission member K N Lingappa said: "Whether this is intentional or not, it should not have happened. This is against social justice."

When contacted, BCW secretary Tulasi Maddineni told *DH* that there was no preferential treatment towards any community, adding that the department had issued the order as per the list sent by the then CM's office.

"This is just a preliminary order, and most of these organisations will not get the money outright. They should be registered societies/trusts, provide documents of the land where they are building it and have a licence from the local municipality/panchayat. After checking all documents, money will be released," Maddineni added.

The D K Shivakumar-led Cabinet is yet to appoint a BCW minister.

Government of India
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi-110003

Invitation of applications for Senior Consultant (Legal) (1 post) on contract basis in Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA)

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) invites applications from eligible candidates as Senior Consultant (Legal) (1 post) for various legal tasks, assignments as elaborated in the Terms of Reference (TOR) available in vacancy notice published on the AERA's website: **www.aera.gov.in.** Candidate with requisite qualification and experience as prescribed therein would be hired as Senior Consultant (Legal) purely on contract basis. The details including eligibility criteria, remuneration and the terms & conditions etc. are available in the vacancy notice published on AERA website. Vacancies are liable to be changed without any prior notice and without assigning any reason whatsoever.

2. Last date of receipt of application is **08.07.2026 upto 5.30 P.M.** Applications to be submitted as per details mentioned in the vacancy notice. Applications received after due date and time will not be entertained.

Deputy Chief
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India, 3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003

CBC 03112/12/0001/2627

कार्यालय : जिला परिषद्, चतरा
(Mail Id- db-chatra@jharkhandmail.gov.in)
(E.mail: districtboardchatra@gmail.com)

(अतिअल्पकालिक ई०निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना)

ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या – 20/2026-27 दिनांक: 09.06.2026

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी : डी.एम.एफ.टी.

क्र.	प्रखण्ड	पंचायत	ग्राम	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	अग्रधन की राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Tandwa	Kichto	Tarwan	Construction of High level RCC Girder bridge over Agartand sarona river.	24757421	10000	495500	18 months

1. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 20/06/2026
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय – 22.06.2026 से 29.06.2026 के अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 01.07.2026 पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे।
4. सरकार द्वारा लिए गए निर्णय के आलोक में सभी कागजात के साथ निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगा।
5. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही संबंधित निविदाकार की होगी।
6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता – जिला अभियंता जिला परिषद चतरा।
7. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 9835777636
10. विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला अभियंता,
जिला परिषद, चतरा।

PR 381962 District(26-27)#D

INDICATIVE NOTIFICATION

Recruitment against Scouts & Guides (Open Advertisement) in various pay levels in Northeast Frontier Railway FOR THE YEAR 2026-27 (EN-03/2026).

Northeast Frontier Railway invites applications from eligible Scouts & Guides, who are citizens of India, for filling up 12 posts [Level-2 Group-C = 02 posts and Level-1(erstwhile Group-D)= 10 posts] for the year 2026-27.

Date of issue of notification : 20-06-2026
Closing date of application : 19-07-2026

Note: For candidates residing in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, Lahaul & Spiti Districts, Pangi Sub-Division in Chamba Dristric of Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep and abroad, the last date is **29-07-2026** by postal only.

Applicant can view detailed notification by visiting N.F. Railway's website: **www.nfr.indianrailways.gov.in** → General Info → Recruitment Notifications (Sports, Scouts & Guides and Cultural) → Recruitment against Scouts & Guides Quota.

General Manager (P), Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

S.E. RAILWAY – E-TENDER

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/GENL/TP/2026/23 Dated : 10.06.2026
TENDER FOR "E" PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

The Principal Chief Materials Manager, South Eastern Railway, Hd. Qrs. Office (5th Floor), New Administrative Building, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043 for and on behalf of the President of India invites open E-tenders which have been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in** as follows. All the tenders will be closed at 14.00 hrs.

Sl No.	Tender No.	Closing Date	Brief Description	Quantity	EMD (in Rs.)
1.	65255023A	18.06.26	Shock absorber Testing machine 05 TPM for LHB & YAW Dampers.	02 No.	1,65,800/-
2.	43265015	09.07.26	Supply of Split Air-Conditioner of BEE 5-star rating, with rated standard cooling capacity of minimum 6100 Watt. etc.	155 Nos.	1,24,810/-
3.	46263102	01.07.26	Solid Core Porcelain Stay Arm Insulator (1050 mm CD) etc.	2034 Nos.	95,430/-
4.	5626RGC_RELAY_ACLED	07.07.26	Running Contract/Price Agreement of supply of Relay AC LED etc.	9000 Nos.	5,73,300/-
5.	HB266131	25.06.26	Human Albumin 20%, 100 ml Bottle/Vial.	2580 Bottles/ Vials	2,11,310/-
6.	83265106A	26.06.26	Ticket Vending Machine (ATVM).	26 Nos.	1,06,160/-
7.	75263045	06.07.26	Decorative Thermosetting Synthetic Resin Bonded Laminated Sheet etc.	6462 Nos.	1,63,180/-
8.	46265002	08.07.26	Supply of double ended jumper plug assembly 500 AMPS etc.	45 Nos.	1,70,550/-
9.	38264534	24.06.26	Repair kit for 11 inch Brake Cylinder etc.	2402 Set	1,42,230/-
10.	38264017	06.07.26	Cast Steel bolster with liner for CASNUB 22 HS bogies.	67 Nos.	99,120/-
11.	38261561	15.07.26	POH Kit for C3W Distributor valve (Wagon) consisting of 41 items.	1300 Set	1,25,760/-
12.	38263849	20.07.26	Flap Door Arrangement complete for BOXNHL Wagon.	15600 Nos.	11,26,570/-
13.	79263189	30.06.26	Long Cloth Cotton Khadi etc.	1,31,535 Mtr.	Exempted
14.	79263195	30.06.26	Duster Khadi Cloth White etc.	1,45,460 Nos.	Exempted
15.	79261773	30.06.26	Bed Sheet Polyvastra Size 229 cm x 140 cm etc.	75525 Nos.	Exempted
16.	5626RGC_RELAY_QNA1	13.07.26	Running Contract/Price Agreement for supply of Relay QNA1 etc.	14000 Nos.	16,68,200/-
17.	33263032	31.07.26	Safety Wire Rope assembly for FIAT etc.	22,244 Nos.	1,38,070/-
18.	33263185	21.07.26	Primary Spring (Outer) for LHB Non AC etc.	3994 Nos.	10,46,270/-
19.	33263184	16.07.26	Primary Spring (Inner) for LHB Non AC etc.	3394 Nos.	3,29,090/-
20.	33261513B	08.07.26	Bogie Frame Assembly for Coil Spring LHB etc.	37 Nos.	2,58,470/-
21.	30261350	18.08.26	Wearing Piece for Side Bearer on bogie etc.	1,100 Nos.	2,08,200/-
22.	OE255681A	06.07.26	25 KV AC MEMU Transformer 1050 KVA with HV Turret etc.	05 Nos.	3,30,400/-
23.	HB256507	29.06.26	HB256507 29/06/26 Procurement of Fowlers Beds with Mattress etc.	120 Nos.	1,12,010/-
24.	HB247531E	02.07.26	Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of Automatic ceiling mounted modular fire extinguisher 5 kg capacity each etc.	75 Nos.	1,56,670/-
25.	86263001C	30.06.26	Portable Fire Extinguishers, Capacity: 6 Kg, Powder Based etc.	1366 Nos.	1,36,370/-
26.	GEM/2026/B/7461894	02.07.26	Supply of 4 core 70 sq mm. XLPE cable etc.	14000 Mtr.	1,01,360/-
27.	GEM/2026/B/7629228	02.07.26	XLPE cable for size 4 core 150 sq mm etc.	10000 Mtr.	1,37,500/-

Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/ specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective Bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders & any Corrigendum published thereafter. **(PR-303)**

CORRIGENDUM NO. 03 AGAINST TENDER NOTICE NO. CON/2026/APR/02 DATED: 20-04-2026

Corrigendum- 03 for **Tender No. CE-CON-DK-EPC-2026-02** has been published. For details please visit **www.ireps.gov.in**

Chief Engineer/CON/NL Project, Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
(Construction Organisation)
Serving Customers With A Smile

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221

E-Open Tender Notice No.: S/RWP/E/2026-27/09, Dated: 08.06.2026. Principal Chief Materials Manager / Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites online **"e-Open Tender"**, through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website **www.ireps.gov.in**, for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14:00 hrs. **1. Tender No.**: 01261036. **Short Description of item:** Magnesite Wet Ramming Mass. **Quantity:** 800 MT. **Due Date / Time of closing:** 03.07.2026 at 14:00 Hrs. Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in**.

For PCMM/RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2026-27/33

TURNKEY CONTRACT FOR THE WORK OF SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING OF PLANT & EQUIPMENT ETC.

Tender Notice No. : M-TSK-2026-19, Dated: 05-06-2026; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work; **Tender No. :** M-TSK-2026-19; **Name of work :** Turnkey contract for supply, installation and commissioning of Plant & Equipment along with Related infrastructure and Operation of Mechanized Laundry at Dibrugarh, collection of soiled linen from coaches from Dibrugarh, New Tinsukia and Tinsukia Railway stations and loading of washed linen in coaches at Dibrugarh, New Tinsukia and Tinsukia Railway stations for a period of 10 years under BOOT (Build- Own - Operate- Transfer) Model. **Advertised Value:** ₹176,82,39,968.17/-; **Earnest Money**: ₹89,91,200/-; Last date & time for **submission** of tender at **15:00** hrs. and **opening** at **15:30** hrs. on **09-07-2026**. Complete information alongwith the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DME, Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

भारत सरकार
कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
त्वरित कॉर्पोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेस),
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वी मंज़िल,
प्लाट P-6,7,8, से.-5, आई.एम्.टी. मानेसर, गुडगाँव,
हरियाणा - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
IICA Building, 7th Floor,
Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar,
Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

FORM No. STK -6
PUBLIC NOTICE

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public :ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2026-27/394 **Reference:** **Date: - 02/06/2026**

In the matter of striking off or removal of names of **(87)** companies in the state of **Karnataka** State under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S.No.	Work Item	CIN	COMPANY NAME
1	AC3032128	U40102KA2007PTC044099	SAI LEELA POWER PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AC3447459	U62090KA2023PTC181232	VERITUST I-TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AC3039712	U74999KA2018PTC152947	INFIGENE WELLNESS PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AC3089739	U77309KA2025PTC199968	BIDSO WORKS PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AC3107560	U74999KA2020PTC141184	B S GANGANNAVAR MANPOWER PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AC3147536	U74999KA2017PTC108699	TALENDEATE BEYOND BORDER PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AC3117413	U74999KA2019PTC125737	MOXIEANDHOPPER PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AC3167675	U62011KA20230PC172257	APPIGIOUS TECHNOLOGIES (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
9	AC3220196	U24231KA1996PTC019604	STERLING GLOBAL PRIVATE LIMITED
10	AC3296145	U62011KA2025PTC206923	PROTOHEALTH TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
11	AC3191966	U63112KA2023PTC175402	AMAZING MINUTES PRIVATE LIMITED
12	AC3420174	U74999KA2019PTC120075	PRAVAKRISH TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
13	AC3180327	U72900KA2015PTC084005	APPCORE INFOTECH PRIVATE LIMITED
14	AC3182710	U00155KA1993PTC014534	ARITA TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
15	AC3214276	U72200KA2015FTC080515	KEN INTERACTIVE (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED
16	AC3276006	U46691KA2024PTC194522	KSTAR CHEMICALS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
17	AC3240652	U24290KA2021PTC149832	AGREWA FARMTECH PRIVATE LIMITED
18	AC3299586	U80101KA2021PTC149316	FUTURE LEARN TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
19	AC3242119	U93090KA20190PC130170	CICADA STREAM (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
20	AC3324478	U52101KA2023PTC178994	KAY ENN COLD VAULT & PROCESSING PRIVATE LIMITED
21	AC3283532	U74999KA2016PTC094188	NIRVATA TVISI PRIVATE LIMITED
22	AC3303529	U52190KA2021PTC155357	SHIV KAMAL TRADING PRIVATE LIMITED
23	AC3324677	U72900KA2022PTC166627	MEDIMILES HEALTH CARE TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
24	AC3362756	U52330KA2021PTC150765	POCKETCOURSES PRIVATE LIMITED
25	AC3358747	U62099KA2023PTC171092	CIRCUMER SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
26	AC3331292	U72900KA2020PTC135004	SUPERSOLVE TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
27	AC3521114	U11043KA2025PTC201975	SESHU AND SONS BEVARAGES PRIVATE LIMITED
28	AC3341557	U74999KA2016PTC094501	PURPLTREE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
29	AC3349769	U36990KA2023PTC170636	KABOOKA PRIVATE LIMITED
30	AC3334390	U43212KA2024PTC190611	DHANUR TECH M SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
31	AC3396294	U72200KA2006PTC039274	ZANDIG ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
32	AC3399693	U34300KA1998PTC023937	KULKARNI AUTO COMPONENTS PRIVATE LIMITED
33	AC3364693	U18101KA2019PTC120699	SHIVORA APPARELS PRIVATE LIMITED
34	AC3384339	U74999KA2021PTC147155	VSR SPECIALITY PACKINGS PRIVATE LIMITED
35	AC3370917	U74994KA2010PLC052706	SCHEEK HOME INTERIORS LIMITED
36	AC3400443	U24210KA2019PTC122823	ALMOND AGRO NUTRIENTS PRIVATE LIMITED
37	AC3384282	U74999KA2021PTC145479	MXSQR ADVISORS PRIVATE LIMITED
38	AC3393722	U73100KA2023PTC178832	REDGOLD MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
39	AC3393113	U74140KA20150PC084248	COLLABORATIVE AUTOTECH (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
40	AC3466707	U15549KA2022PTC169051	SHUBHAPRADA ASSOCIATES PRIVATE LIMITED
41	AC3418138	U78100KA20240PC183513	APRICUS RECRUITMENT (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
42	AC3576072	U47190KA2024PTC187033	LOUIBON CLOTHINGS PRIVATE LIMITED
43	AC3410751	U92490KA2020PTC137436	SKIA VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
44	AC3453776	U24230KA2020PTC132855	N.N.R HEALTH CARE PRIVATE LIMITED
45	AC3436635	U73100KA2021PTC150461	BLOCKBIT TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE LIMITED
46	AC3428119	U29306KA2022PTC159196	USHTARA TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
47	AC3425710	U72900KA2021PTC151057	IMEDOS CONSULTANCY PRIVATE LIMITED
48	AC3417924	U72200KA2016PTC086694	INDISPARROW TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
49	AC3439329	U19202KA2022PTC160379	FUNCTIONAL LIFESTYLE PRIVATE LIMITED
50	AC3435753	U52599KA2020PTC132836	BIZDEPTH PRIVATE LIMITED
51	AC3448372	U50400KA2022PTC169498	NAWAN VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
52	AC3434979	U29304KA2017PTC108380	BRIGHTWAY SOLIDS CONTROL INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
53	AC3460762	U34100KA2021PTC153173	AUTOMOBILI TATTVA PRIVATE LIMITED
54	AC3453923	U58203KA2024PTC191740	SGL MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
55	AC3457457	U15490KA2020PTC137310	RICHMEN FOODS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
56	AC3467613	U15130KA2022PTC169357	SANKETANI ASSOCIATES PRIVATE LIMITED
57	AC3474983	U62099KA2025PTC207792	BOOK MYWED PRIVATE LIMITED
58	AC3470507	U72200KA2008PTC046193	JM TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
59	AC3630648	U62020KA20230PC182503	AIITWEB PROFESSIONAL AI CONSULTANT (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
60	AC3512480	U10799KA2025PTC198614	EIGHTY TWENTY FOODS PRIVATE LIMITED
61	AC3491644	U25991KA2024PTC191077	VASKOMP FASTENING SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
62	AC3508494	U93000KA2012PTC062362	EMAGINUS PRIVATE LIMITED
63	AC3490690	U15490KA20180PC113486	ROOTED FOODIES ENTERPRISES (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
64	AC3507553	U74140KA2002PTC030464	MEANS 2 END CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED
65	AC3499134	U85110KA1989PTC009819	L.K.POLYFIBRE PRIVATE LIMITED
66	AC3504849	U72900KA2021PTC155718	KTCINFOTECH SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
67	AC3619921	U40103KA2014PTC074808	IMMINENT SOLAR PRIVATE LIMITED
68	AC3485533	U72200KA2018FTC116161	KOINEARTH INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
69	AC3495499	U52394KA1999PTC024926	SQUARE COLOUR LAB PRIVATE LIMITED
70	AC3523158	U85499KA2023PTC170793	BRAINYLIFT EDUCATION CONSULTANTS PRIVATE LIMITED
71	AC3525360	U93190KA2024PTC195023	REBELEDGE TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
72	AC3512942	U47219KA20240PC195206	VEGANRANGAN VENTURES (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
73	AC3552207	U07010KA1988PTC009242	SRIDHAR HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED
74	AC3554879	U45309KA20160PC098797	CHINNABHANDAR INFRATECH PRIVATE LIMITED (OPC)
75	AC3555220	U72900KA2020PTC131454	RYDAL TECH PRIVATE LIMITED
76	AC3572220	U45200KA2021PTC151156	THREE LINES HOUSING PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
77	AC3595939	U46300KA2025PTC209482	PUDTAD FOODS PRIVATE LIMITED
78	AC3579848	U74999KA2022PTC167552	FISSION FINTECH INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
79	AC3579881	U24110KA2020PTC141942	FEMIN9 RETAIL PRIVATE LIMITED
80	AC3591629	U72900KA2020PTC134978	EVER4 PRIVATE LIMITED
81	AC3591023	U51909KA20220PC166354	ANVIRON ENTERPRISES (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
82	AC3600285	U68100KA2024PTC186550	ARIUM INFRA PRIVATE LIMITED
83	AC3616148	U55209KA2017PTC104123	RAJESH RESTAURANTS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
84	AC3618905	U74999KA2016PTC097955	TRIOPHS MEDICAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
85	AC3617934	U31200KA1998PTC023624	HATFIELD ENGINEERS PRIVATE LIMITED
86	AC3609069	U73100KA2024PTC188533	ADSHELL MARKETING PRIVATE LIMITED
87	AC3620077	U07020KA2003PTC032541	BENCHMARK PROPERTY CONSULTANTS PRIVATE LIMITED

2. Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies. 3.Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies. 4. Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

CBC 07123/11/0180/2627

Irkan Tirkey, Assistant Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving

Thank you for favours received.
- Vasu and Co.

Thanksgiving

Thank you for favours received.
- Vasu and Co.

Thanksgiving

Thank you for favours received.
- Vasu and Co.

THANKSGIVING

Book your Thanksgiving Advertisement in **Deccan Herald**

@ 2100 with GST

(Size 4cmx5cm)

For more Details Contact:
Ph: 080- 45557163/ 164
9845114560 | 9731810277

PM Narendra Modi with US President Donald Trump. PTI FILE

Modi, Trump may meet in France next week on sidelines of G7

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and United States President Donald Trump may have a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the G7 summit and the associated meetings, which French President Emmanuel Macron will host next week.

Officials are exploring the possibility of a bilateral meeting between Modi and Trump in France. Such a meeting will be the second between the two leaders after Trump's return as the US president in 2025. Modi had met Trump at White House on February 13.

If Modi and Trump meet on the sidelines of the G7 summit, they are likely to discuss the proposed India-US trade deal and India's energy imports from the US.

Modi is also likely to convey New Delhi's concerns over the challenges faced by legitimate Indian travellers to the US due to the changes in the visa regimes brought in by the Trump Administration, a source told *DH* on Wednesday.

A bilateral meeting will also allow Modi and Trump to discuss the West Asia situation, particularly the implications of the conflict between Iran, on one side, and Israel and the United States, on the other, on the energy security of India, the source said.

3 Indian crew missing after ship attack; US diplomat summoned

MT Settebello hit near Hormuz; 21 citizens rescued

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A senior US diplomat was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Wednesday after three seafarers from India were reported missing following a precision munition strike by the US on a commercial vessel off the coast of Oman.

The MT Settebello was sailing under the flag of Palau near the Strait of Hormuz, and its crew included 24 Indians. While 21 of them were rescued, three are reportedly missing, according to the government.

The Indian mission in Muscat is closely monitoring the situation and proactively coordinating with the authorities in the search and rescue operation, said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

Jason Meeks, the chargé d'affaires of the US embassy in New Delhi, was summoned to the MEA headquarters, where he was handed over a démarche, conveying concerns over repeated attacks on commercial vessels in the region.

The US Central Command (CENTCOM) stated that it "disabled" the vessel after the crew failed to comply with directions from the US forces.

Vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, Musandam, Oman. REUTERS

"The continuing incidents of attacks on shipping in the region are deeply worrisome and a direct result of the ongoing conflict in the region," the MEA said in a press release issued on Wednesday.

The MT Settebello was attacked two days after the US forces similarly attacked and disabled the unladen MT Marivex oil tanker, which was also sailing under the flag of Palau, in the Gulf of Oman. The MT Marivex was hit by US forces after it attempted to sail to a port in Iran, flouting the blockade against the Persian Gulf nation.

Twenty-four Indian seafarers were rescued after the attack on the MT Marivex on Monday.

India on Wednesday reiterated its call for immediate de-escalation of tensions in West Asia, where the conflict between Iran and Israel-US has been disrupting maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz — a choke point between the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. India also asked for the conclusion of negotiations for a diplomatic solution.

"The targeting of commercial shipping and civilian infrastructure in the region must end, and free and unimpeded navigation and commerce through the international waterways in the region, in keeping with international law, must be restored at the earliest," the MEA said.

India recently noted that the over-100-day conflict had already caused immense human suffering, with a debilitating impact on global economy and energy supplies.

PoK protests spark debate across Kashmir

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

TALKING POINT

- Protests linked to issues of political representation, governance, civil rights
- Videos of marches, clashes, funeral processions dominate social media
- Many say protests shouldn't be seen solely through prism of India-Pak rivalry
- Youth demand accountability and better governance

Deadly clashes between protesters and security forces in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) have triggered a debate among Kashmiris, with social media users, students and political observers expressing differing views on the unrest and its implications for the larger Kashmir issue.

PoK refers to the part of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir that came under Pakistani control after the 1947-48 war. India claims the entire erstwhile state, including PoK and Gilgit-Baltistan, as its territory. In a unanimous 1994 resolution, Parliament declared Jammu and Kashmir an integral part of India and called upon Pakistan to vacate the areas under its occupation.

The latest unrest in PoK capital Muzaffarabad and other towns like Rawalakot has drawn considerable attention in this part of Kashmir, with videos of marches, clashes and funeral processions widely shared on social media. The protests have been linked to issues of political representation, governance and civil rights and have resulted in multiple deaths and injuries.

Among those reacting to the developments was Srinagar-based political commentator Javed Beigh, who organised a symbolic protest and submitted a memorandum to the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan. In a post on X, Beigh alleged excessive use of force by Pakistani authorities against protesters and called for international attention to the situation.

Several social media users viewed the unrest as evidence of growing dissatisfaction with governance. One widely shared post accompanying a video of a protest argued that recurring demonstrations over economic hardship, electricity tariffs and demands for greater political rights exposed contradictions in Pakistan's long-standing position on Kashmir.

Others, however, cautioned against viewing the developments solely through the prism of India-Pakistan rivalry. They argued that the focus should remain on the grievances of ordinary residents and the issues that had driven people to the streets.

"The tragedy should not become a political football. The real issue is whether people's concerns are being heard and addressed," said Ghulam Hassan, a shopkeeper in old city Nowhatta, reflecting a sentiment echoed by several commentators.

Students and young professionals said the events had generated interest among their peers. "Many of the protesters appear to be demanding accountability and better governance. These are concerns that resonate with people everywhere," said Aamir Ahmad, a postgraduate student at the University of Kashmir.

Ex-CM Rupani's daughter questions Air India crash compensation terms

Alleges families asked to waive future claims against airline

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Suresh Patni, father of Akash Patni, 14, who died in an Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner plane crash incident on June 12, 2025, during take-off from an airport, mourns near the plane crash site in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. REUTERS

2025 TRAGEDY

- Boeing 787 Dreamliner crashed on June 12, 2025, killing 260 people
- Victims' families must sign agreement to receive compensation
- Ex-chief minister's daughter demands support without sacrificing future legal rights
- Says investigation into the crash not complete

Ahead of the first anniversary of the Air India-171 crash, Radhika Mishra, daughter of former Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani, who died in the accident, raised concerns that the airline was allegedly pressuring victims' families to accept a full-and-final compensation settlement that would require them to waive their future rights to sue AI and other stakeholders.

She said that the Receipt, Discharge and Indemnity document about the June 12, 2025 accident demands families to permanently waive all present and future claims, "known or unknown, of whatsoever nature and howsoever arising".

Mishra has objected to this particular clause. It means that once a family accepts the compensation, it would permanently give up its existing and future claims related to the accident against Air India and other parties, including "Boeing, General Electric, GE Aerospace, Safran, Avionics USA LLC, Honeywell International, the Union government, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the DGCA, the Airports Authority of India and Ahmedabad International Airport Ltd".

Affected family members are required to sign this agreement to receive compensation. In an email to the aviation company, Mishra questioned why families were being asked to permanently waive their present and future claims when the investigation into the crash had not yet been completed.

"How can families be required to waive present and future claims before all the facts are known?" she wrote.

'We deserve closure'

Referring to the same document, Mishra further asked, "Why is there an effort to obtain final releases before the truth is known? We deserve more than compensation. We deserve answers, we deserve transparency and, above all, we deserve closure."

She urged Tata Sons and Air India to "clarify publicly whether families can receive support without sacrificing future legal rights, consider the use of broad release and indemnity provisions before the completion of all investigations, and ensure that no family feels pressured to choose between immediate financial support and the pursuit of truth."

Several families that have already received compensation said they were either unaware of or had not paid attention to such clauses.

An email sent to Mishra on Wednesday evening remained unanswered, while a response from Air India was also awaited. Meanwhile, Mishra's brother Rushabh Rupani told *DH* that "the matter was one between the families and the companies involved which should not have been leaked."

Lone survivor still undergoing treatment for trauma: Kin

AHMEDABAD, DHNS: On a humid morning in Ahmedabad's Haripura locality, three youngsters stand silently, gazing at a few abandoned buildings blackened in soot and their glass windows shattered. Three CRPF personnel guard the premises to prevent curious visitors from approaching it.

The buildings housed the hostel and canteen of the government-run B J Medical College, where Air India's AI-171 flight crashed seconds after taking off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport on June 12, 2025.

"We have just landed from the UK and came here to see this place where the plane crashed. We are now going to our native place in Diu," said one of them, while identifying himself as Vishal.

According to officials, these buildings will be demolished soon.

Vishal said they are relatives of Vishwas Kumar Ramesh, the lone survivor of the devastating air crash.

Before leaving, Vishal told *DH* that Ramesh was in the UK and undergoing treatment, as he was still struggling to recover from the trauma.

A woman sits at her shop along a waterlogged street after a heavy rainfall and thunderstorm in Kolkata. REUTERS

HC pulls up top cop over illegal detention; victim gets Rs 2 lakh

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

The Allahabad High Court has flagged the "misuse" of magisterial powers by a police commissioner as it ordered the UP government to pay Rs 2 lakh as compensation to a person who had been kept in custody for eight days after being held over the apprehension of breach of peace.

A division bench comprising Justices Siddharth and Vinay Kumar Dwivedi recently passed directions in a case concerning the detention of one Mansoor Ahmed, a resident of the Lakhimpur Kheri district, after he failed to execute a personal bond following his detention.

"This is a shocking state of affairs in the Commissionerate, Prayagraj. The Commissioner of Police (CP) has been given the powers of a magistrate, which are being misused to the hilt," the court said.

"We find that despite there being a policy decision in this respect, police officials of the state and the magistrates are acting in a highly irresponsible manner by sending persons brought before them [to prison], only to prevent breach of peace," it added.

"We find that petitioner no 1 (Mansoor Ahmed) was kept in illegal judicial custody for eight days and therefore, he is directed to be compensated at the rate of Rs 25,000 per day, coming to Rs 2 lakh, for his illegal detention within six weeks by the state government," said the court.

"Thereafter, the amount shall be recovered by the state government from the assistant commissioner of police, Bara, Prayagraj, after conducting a disciplinary inquiry against him within three months," said the court.

The petitioner had contended that some police personnel barged into his house on March 23 and took him away. He also alleged that he was tortured in police custody.

Govt signs Rs 449-crore deal with Bengaluru firm to buy advanced jammers for Navy

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Defence Ministry on Wednesday signed a Rs 449 crore agreement with a Bengaluru-based company to procure satellite signal jammers for the Indian Navy with the aim of improving India's electronic warfare architecture amid China's expanding presence in the Indian Ocean region.

The contract has been signed under the 'Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)' category, the ministry said

The jammer's capabilities include degrading the satellite signal acquisition and tracking performance of the adversary Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver, as well as signal spoofing or deceptive jamming.

"The agreement with Accord Software and Systems Private Limited is for the procurement of 20 enhanced capability global navigation satellite system jammers for the Indian Navy at a total cost of Rs 449 crore with a minimum 75% indigenous content," the ministry says in a statement.

The induction would pave the way for safe operations by the ships of the Indian Navy in a multi-threat environment, officials said, adding that it marks a critical milestone in the ongoing efforts to bolster defence capabilities and indigenise advanced military technology.

Set up by five technologists in 1991, the Bengaluru-based company has been working on various aspects of the global navigation satellite system technologies. The agreement was signed in Delhi in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh.

Govt assures Parliament panel of fair re-NEET

NEW DELHI, PTI

BEST PRACTICES

- Top officials of the ministries of health and education assured a Parliamentary panel that the NEET-UG re-exam on June 21 is conducted in a free and fair manner.
- The panel told officials to learn from the best practices abroad and adopt such systems for the successful conduct of exam.
- The panel members expressed concern over the increasing suicide incidents among students.

Top officials of the ministries of health and education on Wednesday assured a Parliamentary panel that fool-proof measures have been taken to ensure that the NEET-UG re-exam on June 21 is conducted in a free and fair manner.

The Parliamentary Committee on Health and Family Welfare had summoned the secretaries in the two ministries over the conduct of the re-NEET after the exam for undergraduate medical admissions held on May 3 was cancelled over allegations of paper leak on May 12.

The panel also summoned top officials of the National Testing Agency (NTA) and the National Medical Commission (NMC).

Foolproof system

The panel members asked the officials to adopt a foolproof system to ensure free and fair entrance exams.

They also told the officials that similar exams are held in China, the US and other countries but no paper leaks or malpractices happen there.

The members told the officials to learn from the best practices abroad and adopt such systems to ensure that the examination system is foolproof in the country.

An AAP worker raises slogans during a protest demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over alleged NEET paper leak, in Lucknow, on Wednesday. PTI

Call for better coordination

They also called for better coordination between the NMC and the NTA, besides boosting the morale of the testing agency.

The members expressed concern over increasing suicide incidents among students, besides referring to rising anxieties among aspirants due to paper leaks and cancellations.

They also asked the government to help families of students who committed suicide.

The officials assured the members of fool-proof arrangements for the NEET re-exam scheduled for June 21.

This was the third parliamentary panel before which the top officials of the two ministries, NTA and NMC appeared after the NEET-UG paper row.

They had earlier appeared before the Parliamentary committees on education and government assurances, and told them that their complete focus for now was to hold the June 21 NEET re-test in pen-paper format.

CJP warns of 'indefinite sit-in' if Pradhan not sacked

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) will launch an "indefinite sit-in" in Delhi's Jantar Mantar on June 20 if Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan does not resign by then over the CBSE-NEET row, as the 'Gen Z' movement decided to intensify its struggle after the June 6 demonstration.

Abhijeet Dipke

Prior to the Delhi event, a statement said, the CJP will be launching a nationwide protest, starting from Pune on Thursday, followed by cities including Lucknow, Amritsar, Bengaluru, Jaipur and Hyderabad. CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke said climate activist Sonam Wangchuk would join the protest in Pune.

"From Thursday, peaceful protests will start across the country, beginning with Pune and continuing in other cities till the Pradhan resigns. It is a national issue affecting millions of families and young people whose futures have been placed at risk," the statement said.

It said Pradhan has failed to take responsibility for the "repeated failures" and, as accountability must begin at the top, they reiterate their demand for his resignation.

Fatal wild elephant attacks put Kerala govt in a spot

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The second death due to a wild elephant attack in three days in Kerala has put the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) government under pressure to find a solution for the vexed issue.

Raju (62), of Kattikulam near Manathavady in Wayanad, came under attack while working at a farm on Wednesday morning. Though he was rushed to a hospital, his life could not be saved.

The incident triggered strong protests, with local people and the family of the deceased staging a stir demanding a lasting solution.

Mari (37), of Chinnakanal in Idukki, died in a wild elephant attack on Monday. Her son was injured in the attack.

Human-animal conflict has been a burning issue across Kerala for many years. It was a key issue in the recent Assembly election campaign as well.

The previous Left-front government passed a Bill amending the Wildlife Protection Act by including more provisions to kill wild animals entering human settlements, but it has yet to get the President's assent. The Left Front is now putting pressure on the UDF government over the issue.

Forest Minister Shibu Baby John said that 100 five-member teams of the special reserve force would be formed and deployed at the hotspots of wild elephant attacks.

The UDF government is also introducing a policy to mitigate man-animal conflict, prioritising human lives.

Special Force to protect women comes into force in TN

CHENNAI, DHNS: Singappen Special Force, a dedicated women safety and preventive intervention mechanism aimed at ensuring visible police presence, hotspot surveillance, safety audit, and rapid response to incidents affecting women, has come into force in TN.

A key promise of the TVK government led by Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay in the run-up to the Assembly polls, in which women's safety was a major issue, the special task force derives its name from 'Singappenney', a popular song from Vijay's 2019 superhit flick 'Bigil'.

Vijay blamed the previous DMK dispensation for rising crimes, including sexual assault, against women and centred his campaign around the issue, garnering a significant percentage of women's votes.

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Allies on a shaky stage

It was a weakened I.N.D.I.A bloc that met in New Delhi on Monday, against the backdrop of electoral reverses suffered by important constituents. The Opposition alliance has failed to build on the momentum it had after an impressive show in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has since emerged stronger in states and at the Centre. Two major parties in I.N.D.I.A – the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Trinamool Congress (TMC) – were routed in their states in the recent Assembly elections. In Kerala, where the Congress won, the party was pitted against constituents of the national alliance it leads. In West Bengal, the TMC is facing an existential threat following dissidence and defection. Friction within the alliance is palpable. That the group was meeting for the first time after the 2024 elections shows how serious the parties are in being seen on a common platform.

I.N.D.I.A represents a wide spectrum of politics, involving 23 parties with disparate identities and ideologies. It is not known for a united position against the BJP, the common opponent, or for cohesion in its strategies. The DMK, a strong and vocal member of the bloc, stayed away from the Delhi meeting after its post-results fallout with the Congress in Tamil Nadu. Its plans remain uncertain. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) did not attend the meeting. The TMC, another strong pillar of the alliance, has lost much of its parliamentary strength and popular mandate. The Left parties and the Congress have traded charges. Complicating the scene further, leaders of some parties are also switching to the BJP. In the meeting, there was criticism regarding the trustworthiness of Congress. Tamil Nadu has evidence.

Electoral losses and internal strain leave I.N.D.I.A struggling to forge a credible revival path

In spite of the internal misgivings, the parties have decided to work together and present a joint front against the BJP. The meeting agreed on a five-point plan that includes holding consultations more frequently, jointly raising concerns over the Election Commission of India (ECI)'s Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, seeking the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the mishandling of examinations, and coordinating strategies on the floor of Parliament. The parties will meet again in Hyderabad in August. India is facing a multitude of challenges. An effective Opposition can put the government on the back foot over its handling of these issues. However, I.N.D.I.A lacks a credible, unified agenda for its fight against a political adversary that gains further from this inherent disconnect. It will take more than a few meetings and resolutions to get there.

Necessary regulation, intrusive execution

Karnataka's new Home Minister, Priyank Kharge, deserves credit for making underage drinking one of his priorities in office. A joint study by three prominent educational institutions has laid bare a troubling picture: one in three adolescents in the state is at risk of health issues due to alcohol or tobacco use; 33% of surveyed students reported consuming alcohol, against a state average of 8.5%; and the median age of initiation is just 17, with some respondents reporting their first exposure as early as eight years of age. When the minister declared that "commercial establishments cannot place profit above the safety and future of our youth," he was acknowledging a genuine and growing crisis.

However, the circular issued by DGP M A Saleem, mandating a "No ID, No Entry" rule at pubs, bars, breweries, clubs, and restaurants and, more alarmingly, directing these establishments to retain copies of the customers' government-issued identity documents, is a problematic cure. A person walking into a restaurant for dinner, a couple visiting a pub, or a group of friends at a brewery must now surrender a copy of their identity documents to a private establishment. The government offers no credible framework for how this data will be stored or protected. At a time when India's data protection architecture remains weak, and enforcement is even weaker, mandating that thousands of private businesses collect citizen identity documents risks abuse.

Underage drinking calls for strict action, but mandatory ID checks also risk surveillance overreach

The dangers are not hypothetical. The state has previously witnessed women being attacked at pubs by vigilante groups, while interfaith couples checking into hotels have had their details leaked to mobs. Extend that logic to every restaurant in Karnataka, and the result is a system ripe for moral policing, social profiling, and blackmail. Women and members of faiths that consider drinking taboo become especially vulnerable. Their personal data could easily be weaponised. The state should focus on punishing offenders, not inconveniencing law-abiding citizens. If a customer appears underage, the establishment should – and must – demand proof of age before serving alcohol. Outlets that serve alcohol to minors should face swift and severe consequences: licence cancellation, heavy fines, and criminal liability for owners, managers, and event organisers. The provisions mandating functional CCTV cameras and the preservation of footage for compliance checks are sensible and should be retained. The DGP should withdraw the intrusive provisions before Karnataka's bars become surveillance outposts and its citizens learn that a night out comes at the cost of their privacy.

A BURDEN OF ASSET

India's costly affair with gold

Discouraging gold purchases is insufficient; a lasting solution lies in stronger, safer financial alternatives

ABHINAV JINDAL AND VAIBHAVI SINGH

India does not merely consume gold; it worships, stores, gifts, and trusts it more than any other asset class. In 2026, beyond a cultural phenomenon, India's gold dependence poses the challenge of becoming a macroeconomic risk. The Prime Minister's public call in May to avoid buying gold jewellery for at least a year acknowledges India's centuries-old affinity for gold, along with the geopolitical uncertainty that is leading to a fragile external sector and a weakened rupee. However, treating gold as a "problem to eliminate" could be a band-aid solution for much deeper structural issues related to financial insecurity, trust, inflation anxiety, and inadequate social protection.

A crucial aspect of gold lies not in its scale, but rather in its demand. Indian consumers hold somewhere between 25,000 and 28,000 tonnes of gold, compared to the 22,000 tonnes held by the top ten global central banks. In FY2025-26, gold imports touched a record $71.98 billion, second only to crude oil. This not only befuddles economic rationality but also shows the multifaceted economic import of gold as an asset class.

First, it's the primary emergency collateral. The gold loan industry touches Rs 7.1 lakh crore because pledging gold is faster and more secure than any other loan option in an emergency. Second, it is a veritable inflation hedge because government bonds have historically underperformed under real inflation rates, making gold a more viable option even if it doesn't yield a return. And it functions as a Veblen good because demand increases during festivals and weddings when the price rises, as people use their purchase to demonstrate their wealth and status.

India produces about 1.5 tonnes of gold against imports worth 700-720 tonnes per year. Clearly, the country has no domestic production base that can counter the effects of the demand, and there is no other commodity that could replace gold in terms of its value.

The limitations of policy

Governments have tried to make gold less attractive as an investment class without fixing the structural drivers which push people to buy gold in the first place. Import duty manipulations constitute the prime example in this regard since even a hike of 15% failed to lower demand; instead, it led to smuggling of gold, which jumped by 47% to 3,502 kg in 2022. Conversely, a reduction in import duty to 6% in July 2024 resulted in a spike in gold imports in FY2024–25, when their volume stood

at 782 tonnes (+15% from pre-pandemic average). The demand curve is effectively vertical; price changes produce negligible quantity adjustment.

Paper-gold schemes did not work for their own set of structural reasons. For instance, Sovereign Gold Bonds, introduced to reduce demand for physical gold amid increasing gold prices, eventually became a liability, costing more than Rs 1.14 lakh crore to redeem, leading to discontinuation in FY2025–26. Gold Monetisation Scheme, designed to unlock idle household gold for national investment, collected only 21 tonnes over a period of almost a decade against annual imports of 700-720 tonnes, due to compulsory melting of traditional jewellery.

What could actually work?

The key issue is to meet the demand for gold while reducing the economic costs of meeting this demand. Given gold continues to function as a store of value, an emergency liquidity instrument and a social asset, any significant reduction in gold demand is unlikely. In that case, policymakers should meet this demand without increasing our reliance on imported gold. Digital gold could be a possible solution in this case.

The demand for digital gold has been very high in recent years; however, the regulation of digital gold remains at best a work in progress. Experts suggest an Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) framework based on mandatory vault certification and regular audits could create confidence in digital gold as a reliable financial instrument. With this system, digital ownership is directly linked to gold held domestically and recycled. Therefore, by meeting domestic households' demand for physical gold, it avoids the need for equivalent new importations. It also reduces pressure on India's foreign exchange reserves and prevents any further depreciation of the Indian rupee.

Another way could be to encourage the use of gold in the hands of institutions like temples and charities. However, it would have to be mindful of property rights, as well as religious traditions. Analysts believe that even a fraction of the gold stored in Indian temples and charities would significantly reduce any need for importing new gold.

Given gold's enduring role as a saving, liquidity, and social asset, India needs solutions which redirect this demand towards domestically-backed digital gold and existing gold reserves rather than fresh imports.

Gold as an asset class in India has created a unique paradox – being a household treasure and a national challenge. While other assets, such as real estate, equities, and bonds, serve one role, gold has traditionally served multiple roles. Not surprisingly, several policy measures in the past towards easing the burden of gold imports have yielded limited returns. Since India's demand for gold is unlikely to diminish, policy should focus on meeting it through domestic sources rather than costly imports. Regulated digital gold and the productive use of idle institutional gold can reduce pressure on foreign exchange reserves and the rupee.

(Abhinav is a senior faculty and an economist; Vaibhavi is an Economics student at Shiv Nadar University)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

The soul of cooking

Good food is more than spices and ingredients

HABEEB AHAMED

Necessity is the mother of all inventions. My transition from nincompoop to, though not a perfect cook, at least one capable of cooking enough to eat and survive is a journey shaped by the possessiveness of my wife.

Except for boiling milk and making tea when my wife was away, I was a complete nitwit in the kitchen. I dared not enter it for fear of provoking her wrath. The kitchen was, therefore, a prohibited territory, and any intrusion was fraught with risk. If I erred, pacifying an agitated wife became an exhaustive marathon. Such was her possessiveness. She never allowed anyone to wield authority over her domain.

In 2016, she underwent a hysterectomy, and the biopsy revealed uterine cancer. After being discharged from hospital, she was restricted from having regular meals, so I prepared semolina porridge for her. She relished it without a grumble. I thought she had finally acquiesced to my preparation and my entry into her domain. But that passivity did not sit well with her, and she would often weep. Perhaps my breakthrough into her territory came only because of her frailty.

Thereafter, I cooked under her aegis. Whenever she underwent chemotherapy or radiation, her younger sister would prepare the food. This continued for quite some time. Then came the dawn of April 10, 2021, filled with grief and gloom. The doctors had given up, and medication had failed to hold her back. She succumbed to the disease.

The setback left everyone in a shambles, and I was its principal victim. Measuring the depth of my misery and the reality that lay ahead, I resolved to carry on by myself. The onus was on me to survive as well as keep myself busy while gathering the scattered bits of tranquility. One such avenue was my enthusiasm for cooking, forged on the anvil of endurance.

Having eaten the tasty, good and wholesome food prepared by my wife for years, it was hard to relish food from outside. My immediate instinct was to jump into the meadow of cooking and continue the legacy she had left behind.

I had to start from scratch. The initial trial-and-error attempts proved disastrous, several times. It is often said that too many cooks spoil the broth. Time and again, I have proved that I can do it single-handedly. With the passage of time, I found my rhythm, and I remain immensely indebted to my younger sister, Khushtar. Though she lives in Salem, I cannot forget her timely help in mending, educating, and clarifying my doubts—her guidance has brought me to where I stand today.

The belief that food cooked by a wife, or by loved ones, tastes better goes beyond spices and ingredients. It is a heartwarming phenomenon, one that finds support even in scientific studies. It is frequently described as a 'labour of love' or 'cooking from the heart', representing care, comfort and dedication rather than mere culinary skill.

A recipe is just words. The soul comes from the cook. Otherwise, why does this quandary persist even when the same ingredients, vessels, spices and methods of preparation are used? Yes, it is that 'magical touch', that mesmeric aura, which makes all the difference. And that is what is lost to oblivion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The subsidy black hole and the collapse of regulatory oversight

The staggering jump in India's fertiliser subsidy bill, projected to be Rs 3.4 lakh crore, exposes egregious administrative short-sightedness. Relying on an unrealistic budget estimate of Rs 1.71 lakh crore reveals the government's failure to foresee global supply vulnerabilities. While external geopolitical shocks are real, the Centre's structural lacunae, particularly its failure to stop massive illicit diversion of heavily subsidised urea sold at Rs 300 per sack against a Rs 4,500 cost to industry, are indefensible. Allowing state-level over allocations of up to seven sacks per farmer points to a collapse of regulatory oversight. Ramping up domestic production now is an emergency band aid for years of policy inertia that left Indian agriculture entirely hostage to volatile foreign supply chains. This fiscal recklessness coupled with a porous distribution apparatus directly compromises national sovereignty, reducing food security into an annual budgetary crisis.
Vijaykumar H K, Raichur

Discordant notes

I refer to 'KBG reaches Delhi with portfolio grouse' (Jun 10). While Chief Minister D K Shivakumar appears to have managed to mollify senior Congress leader and Water Resources and Minor and Major Irrigation Minister Ramalinga Reddy, who was given short shrift after being promised the Bengaluru Development ministry, another senior leader, Krishna Byre Gowda, who was allotted the ministry, is miffed, as two plum departments which were an integral part of the ministry, viz., BDA and BMRDA, have been delinked, as the CM has decided to retain them with him. Gowda has not yet taken charge of the ministry and has rushed to Delhi, apparently seeking the restoration of the departments that were part of the ministry when Shivakumar was the Bengaluru Development minister.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Ensure free healthcare

Apropos 'Karnataka PHCs struggle with staff crunch, medicine shortage' (Jun 10), it is regrettable that the state's public healthcare infrastructure, which is critical to providing people with free basic medical services, is facing a shortage of important staff, including doctors, health officers, and nurses. Also, there is no guarantee regarding the availability of free drugs and laboratory tests. This is fuelling public distrust in the services' efficiency and usefulness, besides leaving them underutilised for the public good. Even Bengaluru's neighbourhood healthcare facilities—Namma Clinics—have failed to make an impact due to their inconvenient locations, work hours and inadequate signage. A properly functioning free or heavily subsidised public healthcare system is perhaps more crucial than the government's other free welfare schemes.
Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

The number of MLAs with us has already crossed 64. It may become 65 tomorrow when another MLA joins us. Naturally, we are the real Trinamool Congress.
Ritabrata Banerjee, West Bengal LoP and TMC leader

It's hard to tell who has your back, from who has it long enough just to stab you in it....
Nicole Richie

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

A double crisis of heat and identity

The amended transgender law deepens the community's climate vulnerability by making disaster relief harder to access

PRATHIKSHA ULLAL

The passage of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act 2026 poses an existential threat to trans persons in a rapidly warming India. This amendment strikes at the heart of the right of trans persons to self-perceived gender identity. By removing the erstwhile Section 4(1) of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, the newly passed amendment questions the very existence of trans persons and places them at the mercy of medical boards for state authentication of their identities to obtain legal documentation.

This constitutes a direct violation of the judgment delivered by the Supreme Court in the case of *National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India* (NALSA), which held that any person can assert their gender identity solely based on their psychological or social experience without the need to undergo medical gender-affirmative surgery.

The implications of obliterating the right to self-perceived gender identity are especially severe in a country increasingly beset by erratic climatic events. This is because access to disaster relief and rehabilitation measures is often dependent upon legal identification in India. It is well documented that during climate-induced flooding in Assam in the year 2020, persons from the trans community were among the worst-hit. Despite possessing the right to self-perceived identity at that time, they faced immense discrimination. Many struggled to access government relief measures, primarily due to a lack of legal documentation and social stigma associated with their identity.

By curtailing the right to self-determination, the 2026 Amendment may further obstruct transgender persons from accessing shelter schemes such as Garima Grehs during climate disasters and in ordinary times alike. This becomes a Sisyphean endeavour, particularly when trans persons seek identity certificates required under the amended law. Consequently, it can be safely stated that the 2026 Amendment is both climate- and identification-blind.

The vulnerability heightened by the 2026 Amendment is not confined to flood-related disasters alone but extends to broader climate-induced crises such as recurring heatwaves. In 2026, heatwaves are affecting states including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Bihar.

Incidentally, led by Uttar Pradesh, these states also have a high population of trans communities. Heatwaves are particularly debilitating for the trans community because of their heightened social and economic precarity, especially in relation to accessing safe and climate-resilient housing and consequent social affirmation.

Pushed to the peripheries of the cities, trans communities who are estranged from their families are mostly compelled to reside in the most unsafe and disaster-prone areas. These are typically low-lying, peri-urban areas or slum settlements that also lack basic sustenance facilities. In this context, the 2026 Amendment appears particularly apathetic because minimal protection from heat, such as access to shelter schemes like Garima Greh (which provide food, medical assistance, and recreational facilities), is now contingent upon producing transgender identity certificates under the amended law.

Left on policy's margins

Extreme heat exposure creates a multiplier effect on their vulnerability, making them more prone to heat-related illnesses. This is also mainly due to the lack of gender-neutral washrooms, which force trans communities to either confront violence and gender dysphoria daily or risk disease. Lacking adequate access to dignified housing settlements, these communities also face a severe shortage of WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) infrastructure, which is particularly crucial during heat waves. This impacts their hydration and sanitation facilities, further undermining their ability to cope with extreme temperatures.

Ironically, despite representative numbers and heightened vulnerabilities, trans communities are rarely accounted for as vulnerable populations in heat action or climate action plans, which are the primary policy-guiding documents for a city's or state's climate action. These plans, although not legally binding, still provide a visionary framework for climate action in India's cities. With their health, existence, and identity at stake, it is high time that these persons and their lived experiences are adequately accounted for in the State's urban planning instruments.

Apart from this, every legislation in India must be audited from a climate-vulnerability lens to ascertain its impact on vulnerable communities. Legislation such as Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026, thought of as climate-neutral, have unintended impacts and compound vulnerabilities of trans persons.

Climate change is an undeniable reality, and as it intensifies, trans persons remain disproportionately vulnerable, confronting the looming threat from both climate disasters and systemic State neglect.

(The writer is a senior resident fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

Telugu states' data centre ambitions raise difficult sustainability questions

DATELINE Hyderabad

S N V SUDHIR

India stands on the brink of a data centre boom, and the two Telugu states are positioning themselves at its nerve centre. But as the infrastructure race accelerates, sustainability challenges are emerging as a critical and largely unaddressed concern.

Every click, every stream, and every AI query depends on an ever-expanding digital backbone. Data centres, which are vast warehouses of interconnected servers, routers, and switches, form the beating heart of the modern economy, keeping cloud platforms, entertainment services, AI training pipelines, and cryptocurrency networks running around the clock. With India now at a pivotal moment in its artificial intelligence journey, these facilities have become indispensable. Yet the scale of the expansion demands an equally serious conversation about its costs.

The numbers for Hyderabad are striking. In just three years, the city's live data centre capacity has more than doubled from 60.9 MW in 2022 to 151.4 MW by end-2025. With a committed and early-stage pipeline of 1.9 GW, Hyderabad now sits as India's second-largest data centre market, behind only Mumbai.

Telangana's 33 active data centres, competitive power tariffs, targeted incentives for high-density GPU infrastructure, liquid cooling, and its T-Cloud framework have collectively positioned the city as a leading destination for AI-ready and sovereign cloud infrastructure. What was once an IT/ITeS-driven market recorded an unprecedented 19.2 MW absorption in 2024, powered by hyperscale and enterprise AI workloads. A single hyperscale AI-native facility, it bears noting, can consume electricity comparable to that of a mid-sized city.

Andhra Pradesh is making equally ambitious moves, planning 6 GW of data centre capacity. Google's three planned campuses in Vizag are estimated to require 5,000 cubic metres of water per day each and between 465 MW and 929 MW of power apiece. According to the state government, the projects will run entirely on renewable energy, promising to catalyse supply chains and ancillary investment across the region.

But the environmental clearances for these projects have triggered sharp objections from activists and rights groups. The Human Rights Forum's representatives point out that the Vizag projects together entail a combined grid demand of 1,626 MW, a backup diesel fleet of approximately 354 generators with a total installed capacity of 971.5 MW, and on-site diesel storage of 2,520 kilolitres. By any reasonable standard, they argue, these are major industrial installations, yet they were cleared under a regulatory category meant for ordinary building and construction activity, one that does not require public hearings. They pointed out that this effectively ensured that local communities were neither informed nor consulted. Rights groups are now demanding reclassification and fresh environmental impact assessments with statutory hearings in all affected villages.

The concerns are not confined to Andhra Pradesh alone. In Telangana, scientists and environmentalists under 'Scientists for People', led by former Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) scientist K Babu Rao, have flagged similar inconsistencies in proposed data centres across Raviryal, Chandanvelly, Meerkhanpet, Peddavedu, and Manchanpally, alleging that planned load and water requirements were misrepresented and that facilities were again classified as 'building and construction' projects to sidestep industrial-scale scrutiny.

The scientists pointed to what they termed a 'cooling gap' in the Environmental Management Plans (EMPs), alleging that key details regarding cooling systems had not been disclosed. According to them, the documents did not specify whether the facilities would use air-cooled, chilled-water, evaporative or liquid-immersion technologies. They also said there was no information on cooling water demand, thermal load calculations, energy consumption for cooling, heat rejection volumes, wastewater generation or refrigerant leakage risks.

The experience unfolding in the United States offers a sobering reference point. The Washington-based Environmental and Energy Study Institute reported that the US hosted 5,426 data centres as of March 2025. A research project, 'Data Centre Watch', tracking grassroots opposition, found that $18 billion worth of data centre projects were blocked and another $46 billion delayed over the past two years across the United States due to community pushback over power grid strain and water consumption. City councils in Seattle and legislative bodies in New York and Maine have imposed one-year moratoriums on new large-scale data centre approvals while studying the infrastructure implications. Several high-profile projects have since been withdrawn.

India need not repeat those missteps. The promise of data centre jobs, capital, digital sovereignty, and AI capacity is real and substantial. But so are the demands they place on power grids, water tables, and local ecosystems. The question now for the Telugu states is whether their policy frameworks are genuinely equipped to balance those competing imperatives or whether the urgency to attract investment is outpacing the rigour of oversight.

Ultimately, the choice lies with policymakers, planners, and citizens alike. As AI continues to reshape our future, the infrastructure that powers it must be built on terms that are transparent, accountable, and sustainable, not just fast. **DHNS**

US President Donald Trump's warming with Xi Jinping of China, a leader he admires, has ignited anxieties in Washington and across Asia

China's Xi Jinping greeting Donald Trump in Beijing last month. Trump said the two had discussed Taiwan and arms sales to the island 'in great detail' during the trip. THE NEW YORK TIMES

Trump's sharp turn on China: Embracing it as a peer power

EDWARD WONG

After meeting with China's top diplomat in Malaysia last summer, Secretary of State Marco Rubio uttered a line that made few waves at the time but would later help pave the way for an abrupt change.

The United States and China, Rubio said, had an "opportunity here to achieve some strategic stability" and find areas of cooperation. He used the phrase again in February while talking about China in the Caribbean, also to little notice.

Chinese officials picked up on Rubio's remarks and suggested to their US counterparts even rosier language to describe ties between the two nations, according to two people with knowledge of the previously unreported diplomacy.

The new phrase — "constructive strategic stability" — was rolled out by both governments during President Donald Trump's meeting in Beijing last month with the leader of China, Xi Jinping.

Although the language sounds stiff and somewhat vague, such diplomatic terms serve as important guideposts. The new catchphrase signals to agencies in both nations, and to other powers, that the United States and China — the world's two largest economies and most powerful militaries — are looking to work together or limit hostilities, notably on trade and Taiwan.

Trump's new policy with Beijing has stirred questions and anxieties across Asia, from Taipei to Delhi to Manila, sending officials in the region scrambling to recalibrate their own approaches to the United States and China.

The signals from the Americans became sharper over a series of official visits to Asia in recent weeks: Trump and his top aides to Beijing; Rubio to India; and Pete Hegseth, the defence secretary, to Singapore.

At an annual military forum, Hegseth said there was "rightful alarm" in Asia about China's military buildup and activities, but he also declared, "We respect their ambitions." He did not mention Taiwan, making him the first defence secretary in more than a decade not to do so at the forum.

After his meetings in China, Trump effusively praised Xi, calling him a towering leader out of "central casting." But more important, Trump said he was holding "in abeyance" arms sales to Taiwan as a "negotiating chip" with China, and that the United States and China were forming a "G2" of equal superpowers. "It's the two great countries," he told Fox News.

Current and former officials in the United States and Asia say the message is clear: Trump intends to accommodate China, and other countries should fall in line.

The new policy is a sharp departure from Trump's aggressive approach during his first term. It comes after China's retaliation during a trade war last year forced Trump to retreat.

"For now at least, the perspective of the Chinese government is that their relationship with the Trump administration is better than they had ever expected," said Yun Sun, a China scholar at the Stimson Center, a foreign policy research group.

"They see Trump as an opportunity to cultivate a positive view of China," said Sun, who was in Beijing during the summit. "They think maybe they can use the next 2 1/2 years to show people that China isn't as bad as everyone thinks it is." She added that Chinese officials are especially keen to sway opinions in foreign policy and national security circles in Washington.

The White House insists that the new "constructive relationship of strategic stability" is linked to "fairness and reciprocity." In a sign that some competition will continue, the Pentagon on Monday added several large Chinese technology companies and an electric carmaker to a list of enterprises linked to China's military, an effort to limit their global trade.

But China has not adopted the Trump administration's framing of the new phrase. The Chinese government has stressed that the language prioritises cooperation. "It should be constant stability where differences are manageable, and the relationship should not be like a roller coaster," the Chinese Embassy in Washington said in a statement.

Xi has been even bolder. In a speech during the summit, he told Trump that "great changes unseen in a century are accelerating" — a phrase he has used before to describe the decline of US power. Xi also urged Trump to try to avoid the "Thucydides Trap," the theory that a rising power and an established power are likely to go to war.

The most obvious — and to many, most concerning — shift by Trump has come on Taiwan. Early this year, to avoid angering Beijing before the summit, the White House ordered the State Department not to move forward with a large package of weapons for Taiwan that Congress had already approved, *The New York Times* reported.

Xi repeatedly warned Trump about such sales after the administration announced an $11 billion package in December.

The Trump administration's new stance appears to violate a long-standing US-Taiwan diplomatic agreement called the "Six Assurances" and the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. Lawmakers from both parties questioned Rubio last week about Taiwan, but he insisted the policy had not changed.

"We're not withholding," he said of the frozen $14 billion arms package. "It's just under review."

Perhaps just as worrying for the Taiwanese government and its supporters is Trump's language on Taiwan.

He has long considered China to be much more important than Taiwan, the democratic, self-governing island that the Chinese Communist Party aims to absorb, and around which the Chinese military is conducting aggressive air and sea activities. After his Beijing bromance with Xi, Trump appeared to blame Taiwan for helping set the stage for potential war.

"I'm not looking to have somebody go independent, and you know, we're supposed to travel 9,500 miles to fight a war," he said. "I'm not looking for that. I want them to cool down. I want China to cool down."

Trump said that he and Xi had discussed Taiwan and arms sales to the island "in great detail."

"Based on the sum total of what President Trump has said to the media, it seems like he has absorbed a great deal of Xi Jinping's thinking on Taiwan," said Bonnie S. Glaser, the managing director of the Indo-Pacific programme at the German Marshall Fund. "People are anxious."

In another significant act, Trump recently decided to allow Nvidia, the US technology company, to sell powerful chips to Chinese companies. That move has drawn some criticism from lawmakers and former officials of both parties who had endorsed the Biden administration's export controls on advanced chips.

China has not immediately approved the imports. But in recent weeks, Chinese executives have sensed a potential easing by Beijing and sought ways to buy the chips, Sun said. Jensen Huang, the CEO of Nvidia, hitched a ride on Air Force One to fly to China with Trump when the plane stopped to refuel in Alaska.

Officials across Asia are trying to discern where their nations fit into Trump's strategic shift. Rubio's trip to Delhi after the Beijing summit was aimed at reassuring Indian leaders after a tumultuous year and a half of policies and statements by Trump that have been widely perceived as against India.

But little of substance came from the trip, which included tourism and a gala hosted by the US Embassy alongside a meeting with the top diplomats from Australia, India and Japan, the other members of a group known as the Quad.

Some officials and analysts see Trump's warming toward Beijing as leading to an inevitable move away from shared goals with India and other Asian countries.

"The strategic convergence on China was the glue that held US-India policy together," said Milan Vaishnav, the director of the South Asia programme at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "Now there's an absence of that."

The New York Times

KIA's green blueprint

SHALINI RAJNEESH

The theme of this year's World Environment Day is 'Inspired by nature. For climate. For our future.' Accordingly, there is a need for all to draw inspiration from nature's sustainability, protect the environment, and safeguard our future.

On this occasion, it is appropriate that we adopt some best practices. Therefore, I am pleased to share with you the success story of the water management practices implemented at the Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru.

As the world accelerates toward net-zero targets, the aviation sector finds itself at a crossroads. Globally, airports are under rising pressure to reduce emissions, optimise resources, and integrate environmental accountability into long-term infrastructure planning. In this context, sustainability is no longer a peripheral consideration; it has emerged as a defining metric of relevance and resilience. Our vision is to grow with responsibility, balancing the approach of 3P – people, planet and profit.

At the Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru, sustainability is not confined to large infrastructure projects; it is deeply embedded into everyday practices and employee behaviour. Guided by the vision 'Touch lives by nurturing a sustainable future through initiatives that drive economic, social and environmental transformation'. Our Sustainability Roadmap is built on six key pillars:

- Water stewardship
- Net-zero carbon emissions,
- Community-aligned noise management
- Circular economy
- Sustainable procurement
- Sustainable mobility

These pillars are supported by our core foundation values: corporate social responsibility (CSR), behavioural change and compliance.

Water stewardship is a core part of BIAL's sustainability strategy. It has achieved a water positivity index of 2.36, meaning it replenishes more than twice the water it consumes. This is enabled through extensive rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling, and smart water management technologies, which reduce dependence on external water sources and strengthen resilience in a water-stressed region. The Bengaluru airport recovers two-thirds of potable water requirements through the internal rainwater harvesting systems.

The Bengaluru airport became the first in Asia to achieve net zero GHG emissions (Scope 1&2), the highest Level 5 carbon accreditation under the Airports Council International (ACI) Airport Carbon Accreditation programme. BIAL had achieved an impressive 95.6% reduction in its scope 1 and 2 emissions, seven years ahead of the initial target of 2030. This early success was driven by strong management commitment, collaborating with the stakeholders, transitioning 100% to renewable electricity, phased implementation of sustainable mobility initiatives and implementing years of energy-efficient infrastructure operations.

The airport is also the first in India to adopt the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). A biodiversity index of 5.18 strengthens our commitment to biodiversity conservation with a diverse urban landscape. In our endeavour to create world-class infrastructure, we have preserved fertile topsoil which further supports our landscape development.

Proactively informing the planning authority of the area for incorporating noise profiles at the planning stage enables future developments to plan their mitigation measures, in line with the airport's vision of community-aligned noise management.

The airport has commissioned an in-house integrated solid waste management centre, leading to zero waste to landfill. The airport's sustainability approach combines water resilience, emissions reduction, and community-conscious environmental management into a broader roadmap that integrates sustainability into both infrastructure and everyday operations.

It integrated our strategic core foundational value of behavioural change – a sustainable transformation programme across the organisation enabling the implementation of sustainability steps in both professional and personal lives. This has facilitated a large amount of collaborative working and stakeholder engagement under a unified purpose which has accelerated the airport's sustainability journey.

The BIAL has successfully translated its sustainability strategy into actionable, organisation-wide initiatives that deliver measurable environmental and cultural impact. If such a model is adopted by various institutions, India and Karnataka will not face shortages of water and electricity. Scientific waste management initiatives will ensure that there is no harm to the environment while also promoting biodiversity.

This year's World Environment Day celebration can be made meaningful by incorporating its principles into the daily activities and institutional management practices.

(The writer is the chief secretary, Government of Karnataka)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1976

Disparities as suicidal as arms race: PM

Moscow, June 10
Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said today that international disparities were as big a danger to peace as armaments of destruction. In a 10-minute address recorded today for beaming to peak-hour televiewers, the Prime Minister spoke about India, its developmental efforts, the fundamentals of its foreign policy, of which friendship with the Soviet Union was one, and praised the peace efforts of the Soviet Union under the leadership of the CPSU General Secretary, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev.

25 YEARS AGO: JUNE 2001

Hurriyat suspends people's movement

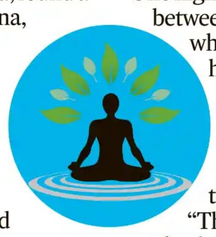
Srinagar, June 10 (PTI)
Hurriyat Conference, an amalgam of 23 parties spearheading separatist movement in Jammu and Kashmir, today decided to temporarily suspend what it called "organised people's movement against State terrorism" in view of the coming Vajpayee-Musharraf summit. "The situation in which the people of Jammu and Kashmir find themselves demands an organised people's movement but in view of the proposed summit, Hurriyat has decided to suspend the same for time being," said a Hurriyat statement.

OASIS | NAZEER AHMED KAZI

The concept of 'God consciousness'

God consciousness is a fundamental principle found in virtually every religion and spiritual tradition. Although different faiths may use different terms to describe it, the underlying concept remains the same: an awareness that God is ever-present, all-knowing, and constantly observing human actions and intentions. This consciousness encourages individuals to act with honesty, integrity, compassion, and responsibility, even when no one else is watching. It serves as a moral compass that guides people toward righteous conduct and reminds them of their accountability before God.

There is a famous story of the Indian saint Bhakta Kanakadasa. Once, his Guru gave a banana to each disciple and instructed them to eat it in a place where no one could see them. All the disciples, except Kanakadasa, found a secluded place, ate the banana, and returned. Kanakadasa came back with the banana still in his hand. When his *guru* asked why he had not eaten it, he replied, "I could not find a single place where God would not see me." His answer reflected a deep awareness of the divine presence everywhere.



Another inspiring example comes from the life of Hazrat Umar, the third Caliph. He devoted his days to the welfare of the people and often spent his nights moving among them in disguise to understand their condition. One night, he overheard a conversation between a mother and her daughter, who sold milk. The mother asked her daughter to mix water into the milk. The daughter refused, reminding her mother that the Caliph had prohibited such adulteration. The mother replied, "The Caliph is not watching us." The daughter answered, "Even if the Caliph is not watching us, Allah is watching us all the time. I cannot commit such a dishonest act."

These stories beautifully illustrate the meaning of God consciousness. It inspires individuals to do what is right not because they fear human punishment, but because they recognise that God is aware of every action, thought, and intention. Such awareness develops honesty, self-discipline, justice, and trustworthiness.

Religious scriptures repeatedly emphasise God consciousness and the reality of the hereafter. Human beings often become absorbed in worldly affairs and forget their ultimate accountability. The remembrance of God helps people remain mindful of their duties and responsibilities. A society guided by God consciousness is more likely to be ethical, compassionate, and just.

Astronomers discover 5 millisecond pulsars in two ancient clusters

Find offers new window into dense stellar systems in the Milky Way

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Indian astronomers have discovered five rapidly spinning neutron stars in ancient star clusters, opening a powerful new window into some of the oldest and most densely packed stellar systems in the Milky Way.

Each of the five stars, including one locked in a cosmic tango, tells unique stories about the early Universe and the star formation processes, according to scientists from the National Centre for Radio Astronomy, Pune, who discovered them after months of observations with the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope.

The rapidly spinning neutron stars—also known as millisecond pulsars—are incredibly dense stellar remnants formed when massive stars explode as supernovae. Over time, these dead stars can be "spun back to life" by stealing material from a companion, turning into whirlers that spin hundreds of times a second.

As they rotate, they send radio waves across space like lighthouse beams. Remarkably steady and precise, they act as natural cosmic clocks, helping scientists test gravity, trace how stars evolve, and explore the crowded environments of ancient star clusters.

Out of over 150 known ancient star clusters, the NCRA scientists and their collaborators from the US, UK, and Germany focused on 22 using the upgraded GMRT.

"For close to two years, we monitored such radio waves and discovered five rapidly spinning pulsars — two in the Messier-69 and three in the Messier-70 clusters — each rotating hundreds of times per second. These discoveries mark the first-ever detection of pulsars in these clusters," Jyotirmoy Das, first author of the paper, told *DH*.

One of them, M69A, is locked in a tight cosmic dance with a companion star, likely a white dwarf, orbiting each other every few days.

Such exotic pairings are forged in the crowded cores of globular clusters, where stars constantly interact, swap partners, and reshape their destinies.

COSMIC REMNANTS

- These are incredibly dense stellar remnants formed when massive stars explode
- As they rotate, they send radio waves across space like lighthouse beams, acting as natural cosmic clocks
- Each of the five stars tells a unique story about the early Universe and star formation

Tenant farmers excluded from Telangana schemes: Study

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Tenant farmers in Telangana are being systematically excluded from government schemes that instead benefit landowners, despite bearing the bulk of agricultural risk, according to a new study.

The study, conducted by the Kaulu Raitula Gurtimpu Sadhana Committee (Tenant Farmers' Recognition Struggle Committee), examined fertiliser subsidies, crop procurement, disaster relief and institutional loans. Formed in April 2026 under the chairmanship of economist Prof D Narasimha Reddy, the committee surveyed 1,816 tenant farmers across 57 villages, 47 mandals and 22 districts.

The findings highlight significant gaps in access to benefits. During the recent Rabi (Yasangi) season, a new app-based system requiring a landowner One-Time Password effectively blocked many tenants from obtaining subsidised fertiliser. Only 412 of the 1,816 surveyed tenants (22.8%) secured subsidised urea at Rs 260 per bag, while only 40 were registered under their own names. Others relied on landowners' identities, while excluded farmers paid up to Rs 500 per bag in open market.

The committee noted that Telangana spends nearly Rs 25,000 crore annually on farmer support, but because benefits are linked to patta documents, the majority flow to landowners rather than cultivators. It said the burden of debt and crop failure falls on tenant farmers.

According to a 2022 survey by the Rythu Swarajya Vedika, tenant farmers account for 36% of Telangana's population, or at least 2.2 million families, yet they remain outside most support systems.

Lease rates have also increased sharply, with the average leased area rising to 6.7 acres from 5 acres in 2022. The proportion of tenants leasing more than five acres has grown from 31% to 42%, reflecting shrinking returns from cultivation.

Disaster relief and institutional credit remain difficult to access. While 85.2% of surveyed tenants reported severe crop losses over past 3 years, only 11 of 1,548 affected farmers received compensation. The study also found that all surveyed tenant farmers depended on private loans carrying interest rates of 24–36%, with debt burdens ranging from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 10 lakh.

Bharathiraja: The man who brought Tamil cinema to the village

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

(1941-2026)

Legendary filmmaker Bharathiraja, who passed away on Wednesday at the age of 84, transformed Tamil cinema in more ways than one. He effectively ended the era of melodramas shot in swanky studios by filming in the hinterland, focusing on the struggles and joys of ordinary villagers,
and bringing the beauty of human relationships to the screen.

Bharathiraja, who directed a range of actors from thespian Sivaji Ganesan to the iconic duo of Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth, had been ailing for some time. His health worsened following the untimely death of his son and actor Manoj in March 2025.

Born in 1941 in Allinagaram near Theni, Bharathiraja was widely regarded as one of the most influential and successful filmmakers in the Tamil industry.

Known as Iyakkunar Imayam (Pinnacle of Directors) for the transformation he brought to the cinema industry and his storytelling, Bharathiraja also worked briefly with Kannada filmmaker Puttanna Kanagal. His connections with Karnataka continued throughout his career, as he loved shooting in the scenic Mysuru and Talakadu.

His 1977 directorial debut '16 Vayathinile' not only showcased raw village life but also brought together some of the best talents in the industry — Kamal Haasan, Rajinikanth, the late Sridevi, music composer Ilaiyaraaja and writer-director K Bhagyaraj.

"The credit for catapulting Kamal Haasan into the so-called new rural Dravidian ethos belongs to Bharathiraja's debut film," veteran film critic K Hariharan writes in his book on the actor.

Bharathiraja enjoyed a long association with Ilaiyaraaja and lyricist Vairamuthu; they highly successful trio delivered several soul-stirring songs.

As a trendsetter, Bharathiraja broke every rule in filmmaking — his opening line 'Yen Iniya Tamil Makkale' (My beloved Tamil people) became legendary, just like his portrayal of strong women characters.

Veteran directors Manivannan and Bhagyaraj — who later ruled the Tamil cinema world with their political satire — were from Bharathiraja's school. The female leads he introduced, such as Radikaa Sarathkumar, Rekha, Revathi, Radha and Ranjitha, went on to become successful artistes.

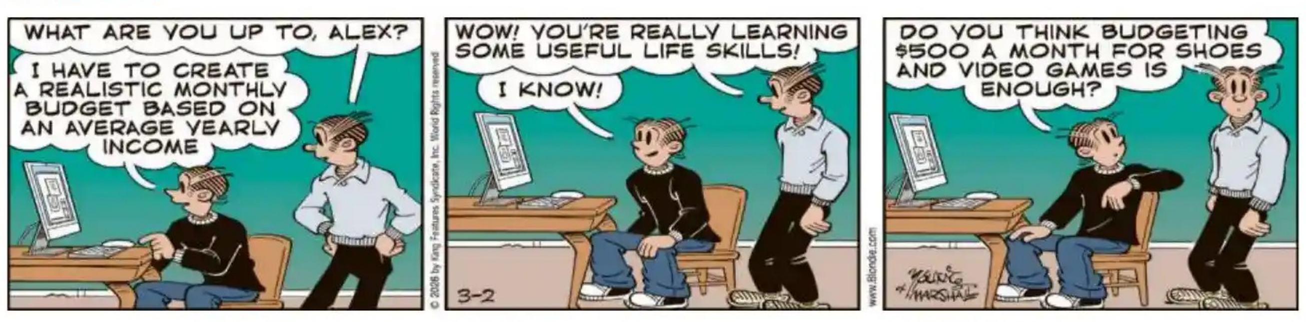
His films 'Vedham Pudhithu', 'Karuththamma' and 'Kizhakku Cheemaiyile' focused on social issues like caste discrimination and female infanticide. 'Karuththamma' won three national awards.

The filmmaker also tried his hand at acting, appearing alongside young actors such as Vishal and Dhanush.

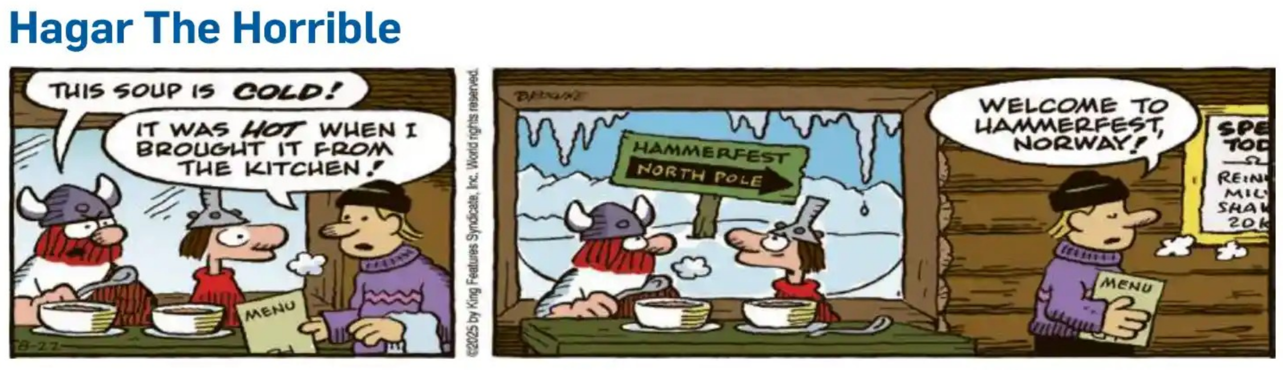
MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie



Hagar The Horrible



Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

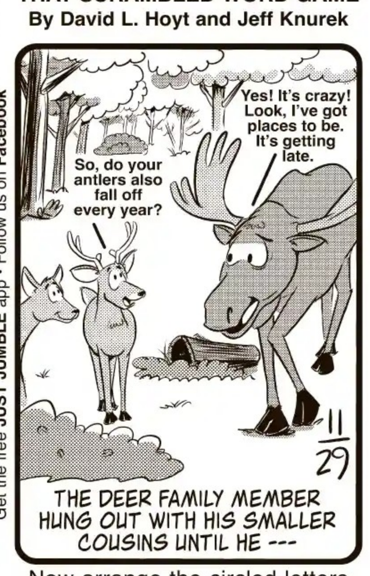
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VTCEO

MAFYO

HWERSD

WNDROA



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

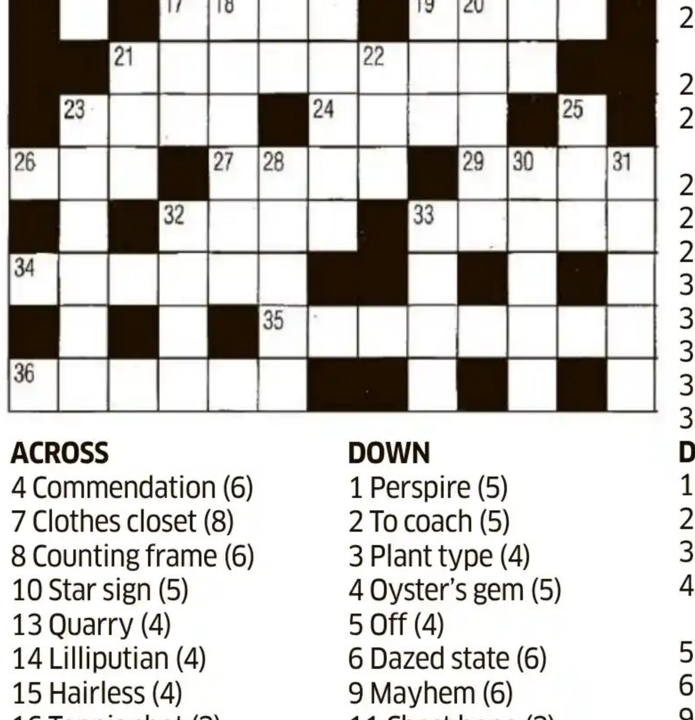
©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLASK GEESE BISHOP SUDDEN
Answer: The company couldn't make a profit selling origami, so the — BUSINESS FOLDED

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12436



ACROSS

4 Commendation (6)
7 Clothes closet (8)
8 Counting frame (6)
10 Star sign (5)
13 Quarry (4)
14 Lilliputian (4)
15 Hairless (4)
16 Tennis shot (3)
17 Bring up (4)
19 Den (4)
21 Terrifying dream (9)
23 Active or energetic person (4)
24 Title (4)
26 Young goat (3)
27 Water jug (4)
29 Unguis (4)
32 Operator (4)
33 Emblem (5)
34 Funeral car (6)
35 Become liquid (8)
36 Strain, emphasis (6)

DOWN

1 Perspire (5)
2 To coach (5)
3 Plant type (4)
4 Oyster's gem (5)
5 Off (4)
6 Dazed state (6)
9 Mayhem (6)
11 Chest bone (3)
12 Eagle's nest (5)
13 Ally, companion (7)
15 Expression of disgust (3)
16 Falsehood (3)
18 Exit (6)
20 Stadium (5)
21 Signal agreement (3)
22 Spoil (3)
23 Straightforward (6)
25 Hairpiece (3)
28 Unwelcome plants (5)
30 Confuse (5)
31 Prise (5)
32 A strong impulse (4)
33 Gaffer (4)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS

4 They may well be only human (6)
7 A drink for the inexperienced? (5,3)
8 Utterly audible! (6)
10 Let money relieve matters (5)
13 Feeble fellow always falling down? (4)
14 It's right on the map (4)
15 The Green twins? (4)
16 A number possibly looking cross (3)
17 Being stony is nothing, mate (4)
19 Stepped on a split-ended stick (4)
21 Sort of government partly of concern to pit workers? (9)
23 Pretty girl, maybe a bit squawky (4)
24 Turn left at Land's End, and there's a sort of mine (4)
26 Old-fashioned youth centre (3)
27 Pale due to having a fling? (4)
29 The ages of noted artists? (4)
32 He resembles Sir Walter no end! (4)
33 Disreputable place for a smoke? (5)
34 Frenchified setting? (6)
35 Count art, if unconventional, as renegade! (8)
36 Possibly show round the house, not in silence (6)

DOWN

1 An American, to the French, is athletic (5)
2 Artist, to some degree Anglo Saxon (5)
3 Formerly in concealment (4)
4 One place where bachelors can join the artillery (5)
5 Support for the small business owner (4)
6 Out East, the couple watched what they ate (6)
9 A bit of a bloomer (6)
11 A listener to something corny? (3)
12 Without love, this supporter may be lost (5)
13 Being Turkish, is sweet (7)
15 Amiable choral piece ñ on the piano! (3)
16 Too fast for the road junction ahead (3)
18 A fine place for dad to do up his shoes! (6)
20 Where the cowboy couldn't stay on a horse? (5)
21 I don't remember getting much sleep in it (3)
22 For which Topsy would have given both pence and shillings? (3)
23 Unship in a way to cause hurt (6)
25 Chap with a masterly way? (3)
28 Sunny side down? (5)
30 City with quiet centre amid iron production (5)
31 Declare in doubtful taste (5)
32 Form of soil from which to get fodder? (4)
33 Useless vessel? (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12435

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 1, Be-h-ind 7, E-f-fus-I've 8, Jude 10, Moo-Red 11, Stree-T 14, (South) Ken 16, Aides 17, (pu-)Shed 19, C-harm 21, F-iend 22, Sid-Ed 23, Die-t 26, Manor 28, Y-on 29, Unused 30, Banker 31, Okay 32, Price cut 33, Heeled.
DOWN: 1, Bla-me-s 2, In-ured 3, De-ed 4, Custard 5, Ti-red 6, New-t-s 8, J-OK-e 9, D-EN 12, Rim 13, Eerie 15, Ch.-e'er 18, Human 19, C|D 20, And 21, Firemen 22, SOS 23, Don-ate 24, Inky 25, Torpid 26, Mum-p-'s 27, Nub-IA 28, Yak 30, Both.

EASY

ACROSS: 1, Bought 7, Home loan 8, Bone 10, Acumen 11, Meteor 14, See 16, Folly 17, Boys 19, Patio 21, Pilot 22, Ronan 23, More 26, Occur 28, Bop 29, Delete 30, Harass 31, Idol 32, Unmanned 33, Emerge.
DOWN: 1, Bedaub 2, Gnomes 3, Then 4, Benefit 5, Motel 6, Angry 8, Busy 9, Nee 12, Too 13, Older 15, Salad 18, Ounce 19, Pin 20, Ton 21, Portent 22, Rue 23, Morose 24, Opal 25, Ensure 26, Odour 27, Climb 28, Bad 30, Hide.

◆ SU-DO-KU-6929 ◆

3			4	6				8
	7			8	9			
4			5				7	
	2					9		
		4	2		5	7		
		6					4	
	9				1			3
			9	5			6	
2				7	4			9

medium

SOLUTION TO 6928

7	1	5	8	9	2	6	4	3
2	9	3	4	6	1	7	8	5
6	8	4	7	5	3	2	1	9
8	4	7	3	1	9	5	6	2
9	5	1	6	2	8	3	7	4
3	6	2	5	7	4	8	9	1
5	7	9	1	3	6	4	2	8
1	3	8	2	4	7	9	5	6
4	2	6	9	8	5	1	3	7

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE

©2025 Mattel, SCRABBLE™ and SCRABBLE tiles, including S1 tiles, are trademarks of Mattel.

G2 P3 S1 A1 I1 H4 N1 — Double Word Score — RACK 1

E1 R1 S1 R1 W4 H4 S1 — 5th Letter Double — RACK 2

I1 L1 T1 S1 A1 U1 F4 — Triple Word Score — RACK 3

D2 E1 O1 H4 R1 D2 E1 — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 120-130
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

C3 H4 A1 F4 F4 — RACK 1 = 24
G2 U1 I1 S1 E1 S1 — RACK 2 = 7
S1 P3 O1 K5 E1 N1 — RACK 3 = 36
B3 L1 O1 A1 T1 S1 — RACK 4 = 24

PAR SCORE 60-70
JUDD'S TOTAL 91

HITORI-3383

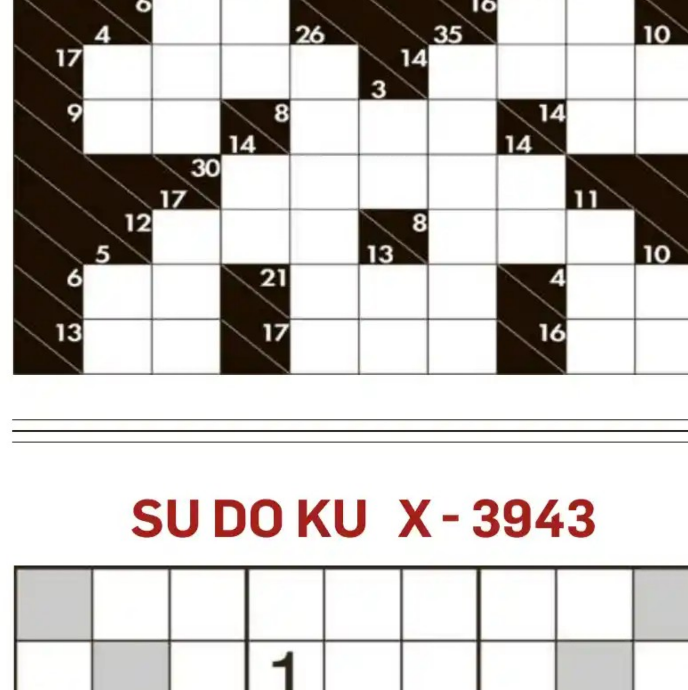
8	4	2	1	6	2	7	7
6	6	7	3	1	1	5	8
4	5	1	6	3	7	6	7
3	7	8	4	7	6	1	7
2	8	6	6	7	3	4	6
8	6	3	7	4	5	2	1
5	2	6	7	8	7	3	1
6	7	6	2	7	1	8	6

SOLUTION TO 3382

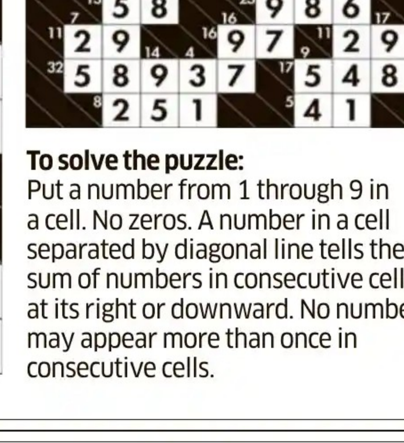
3		8	7	6	2	1	
6	7		5		1	2	3
5	3	6		2	8		4
	1	5	8	4		6	7
1	4		3	8	5		2
4		7		5		3	6
	2	1	4	3	6		5
2	5		6		4	8	

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3383



SOLUTION TO 3382



To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3943

			1					
		2		3				
	1			4				
4		7	5		1			
		3	9	2				
3						6	7	
		5				1		8
	6							9

SOLUTION TO 3942

3	7	6	9	5	1	2	4	8
5	1	8	4	7	2	3	9	6
2	9	4	3	6	8	5	1	7
6	2	1	8	9	3	4	7	5
7	4	9	5	2	6	1	8	3
8	3	5	1	4	7	9	6	2
1	5	7	2	8	9	6	3	4
9	6	2	7	3	4	8	5	1
4	8	3	6	1	5	7	2	9

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

'Gross abuse of law': HC quashes FIR, ED probe against NewsClick, Prabir

Rules that allegations did not disclose the essential ingredients of offences under law

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Delhi High Court has quashed the FIR registered by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) and the subsequent Enforcement Directorate (ED)'s Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) against news portal NewsClick and its Editor-in-Chief Prabir Purkayastha over alleged foreign-funding violations.

A single judge bench of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna ruled that even if the allegations in the FIR were taken at face value, they did not disclose the essential ingredients of offences under Sections 406 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code.

"The continuation of such FIR was nothing but a gross abuse of the process of law," the court held in its judgment on May 29 while quashing both the EOW FIR and the ED's ECIR.

NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha. PTI FILE

The judge further observed that once the predicate offence FIR was quashed, the ECIR was liable to be quashed automatically.

The FIR was registered in August 2020 based on a complaint forwarded by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It alleged that NewsClick had received Rs 9.59 crore as foreign direct investment (FDI) from US-based Worldwide Media Holdings LLC through an allegedly overvalued share transaction to circumvent FDI restrictions.

A substantial portion of the funds was claimed to have been siphoned off through salaries, consultancy fees and other expenses.

The ED registered an ECIR and conducted raids on NewsClick's premises and the residences of its editors in February 2021.

Quashing the cases, Justice Krishna noted that Worldwide Media Holdings LLC had agreed to invest $4.5 million in three tranches in exchange for 23.07% shares in PPK NewsClick Studio Pvt Ltd. The first tranche of $1.5 million was received on April 11, 2018.

Cap on FDI

The court observed that at the time of the investment, there was no cap on FDI in digital news media.

It referred to a 2017 letter written by NewsClick to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting seeking clarification on FDI policy for online news portals and the ministry's January 2018 response confirming no such restrictions.

"From the response received from the Ministry... it was clearly evident that there was no cap on the online publication of news and thus, the agreement... cannot be said to be in violation of any law or disclosing any criminal offence," the court said.

The bench further held that the valuation of shares was carried out as per FEMA regulations using the internationally accepted Discounted Cash Flow method after due negotiations between the parties. "It is an economic decision which does not spell out any criminal offence," the judge observed.

The court also rejected the allegation of siphoning of funds, stating that even if there were overpayments or excessive expenditure, it did not amount to a criminal offence.

It noted that the Reserve Bank of India had informed investigators that the foreign remittance was under the automatic route and there was no violation of FEMA regulations.

HC can't impose bail condition affecting pending suit: SC

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court has ruled that while granting anticipatory bail in a criminal case, a high court cannot impose a condition that effectively grants relief in a parallel pending civil suit.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Vishwanathan partly allowed an appeal filed by Nehru Irulandi against a February 24 order of the Madras HC.

The HC had granted anticipatory bail to Irulandi and others in connection with an FIR registered at the Perunazhi Police Station in Madurai for offences punishable under Sections 189(2), 329(3), 324(4), 115(2) and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

However, it imposed a condition directing the appellants and co-accused not to interfere with the disputed property until the conclusion of a civil suit filed by the complainant.

Noting that the appellants were defendants in the civil suit seeking a permanent injunction, the court observed that the suit was instituted in 2019.

"Prima facie, it appears that the case of the appellant, namely, Nehru Irulandi, as one of the defendants, is that he has purchased the suit property. Be that as it may, the suit is from 2019. The plaintiff has not prayed for any injunction pending the suit," the bench said.

Bengal CM keeps home, Swapan gets finance portfolio

KOLKATA, PTI: Days after the swearing-in of the extended cabinet of the BJP government in West Bengal, portfolios were allocated among the ministers on Wednesday, with finance going to Swapan Dasgupta, while the education sector was allocated to leaders closely identified with the RSS.

Swapan Dasgupta

Chief Minister Adhikari retained the crucial home department along with law and judicial affairs, land and land reforms, power, information and cultural affairs, refugee relief and rehabilitation, personnel and administrative reforms, and hill affairs.

According to a notification issued by the state home department, veteran politician Tapas Roy, who crossed over to the BJP from the TMC in 2024, has been entrusted with the industries and commerce department.

Another blow to TMC as MP Sushmita Dev resigns from RS

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Trinamool Congress was on Wednesday further jolted with Sushmita Dev becoming the second MP to resign from the Rajya Sabha and appeared headed to the BJP, while rebel Lok Sabha MPs kept their cards close to their chest.

Sushmita's resignation from the Upper House and party came two days after Sukhendu Sekhar Ray quit the RS and "anarchical" Trinamool while praising the BJP for taking initiatives for "overall development and reconstruction" of West Bengal. With this, TMC numbers in the upper house have come down to 11.

The resignation of the 53-year-old leader, daughter of Congress veteran Sontosh Mohan Dev, comes at a time the TMC is facing an existential crisis following the electoral debacle in West Bengal Assembly elections.

Rahul meets Abhishek, sparks buzz over merger

Congress, TMC dismiss reports as baseless

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

FUTURE EQUATIONS
- Rahul and Abhishek hold 90-minute talk
- Some don't rule out possibility of a Cong-TMC alliance in future
- Two parties said to be 'much closer' than before
- TMC currently in turmoil after poll debacle

A 90-minute meeting between senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday, a day after Sonia Gandhi and Mamata Banerjee held talks, triggered speculation about a merger between the two parties. However, both sides dismissed the reports.

Both parties insisted that talk of a merger was "baseless" and said the deliberations between the leaders, described as a "continuation of the I.N.D.I.A. bloc meeting on Monday", were aimed at strengthening cooperation in the fight against the BJP in West Bengal and elsewhere.

Sources, however, did not rule out the possibility of an alliance in the future, citing the stature of the leaders involved in the discussions and the amount of time they spent together at 10 Janpath. The Sonia-Mamata meeting lasted about 50 minutes, while Rahul and Abhishek spoke for nearly 90 minutes.

The deliberations came at a time when the Mamata-led Trinamool is in disarray following its electoral debacle in West Bengal.

19 rebel MPs

During the day, reports emerged that the rebel faction had secured the endorsement of 19 MPs, or two-thirds of 28 MPs, with Sayoni Ghosh among those joining the group.

Sources said the Sonia-Mamata meeting were broadly on strengthening the I.N.D.I.A bloc and improving relationship between the two parties. Rahul and Abhishek discussed alleged "vote chori" and the Opposition's future course of action.

The optics were of "convergence", and the two parties are "much closer" than before, a senior leader said. At the same time, sources indicated that the path may not be smooth in West Bengal, as the Trinamool, with around 41% votes, would be reluctant to cede much to the Congress, whose vote share is around 3%.

However, the counterargument is that a weakened Trinamool would need the "nationally relevant" Congress to navigate the crisis, especially as it faces pressure from the BJP in West Bengal. Sources said both parties are discussing the future of anti-BJP politics in the state.

Sources claimed the Congress-Trinamool 'jugalbandi' began at least two weeks ago over the convening of an I.N.D.I.A bloc meeting, even as the CPM remained circumspect about holding such a meeting at this juncture. However, the Congress pushed ahead with the plan at Trinamool's request.

Speculation about a merger triggered unease among a section of the Congress in West Bengal. "One cannot mix drainage water with clean water," said senior leader Abdul Mannan.

'Great one': US on Modi; Russia hails him as 'doyen' of PMs

WASHINGTON/MOSCOW, PTI: US President Donald Trump on Wednesday described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a "Great One", while Russia hailed him as the "doyen of all Indian prime ministers" as world leaders congratulated him on becoming India's longest continuously serving elected representative at the top post.

Donald Trump

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Italian Prime Minister Georgia Meloni, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and former UK PM Rishi Sunak were among prominent leaders who extended their greetings through social media posts.

Congratulating his "friend", President Trump, in a post on Truth Social, described Prime Minister Modi as "a Great One".

"He is a strong, healthy, and wise man, and will have many years of Greatness and Success ahead of him," Trump said.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Russia hoped Modi would continue to contribute to the development of bilateral ties.

"Today, on 10th of June, Prime Minister Modi became the doyen of all Indian Prime Ministers. What does a doyen mean? A doyen is a person who is the Prime Minister of the country for the longest term," Peskov said in a felicitation speech.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi shares 'jhalmuri' with NDA leaders during a meeting in New Delhi to celebrate the government completing 12 years and Modi becoming the longest-serving elected PM of India. PTI

Longest-serving elected PM: Cabinet hails Modi

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday passed a resolution applauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi for becoming the longest continuously serving elected Prime Minister of India, surpassing the record of Jawaharlal Nehru. Cabinet members gave Modi a standing ovation during the meeting.

The resolution congratulated Modi on completing over 4,398 days in office and expressed full support for his 'Viksit Bharat @2047' vision to transform India into a developed nation.

It praised his leadership in national security, inclusive growth, social justice, and welfare initiatives that have lifted more than 25 crore people out of poverty.The Cabinet lauded Modi's "tireless dedication to public service" and credited his government with strengthening national security, boosting self-reliance, and driving inclusive development.

'Absolute confidence'

"The Cabinet firmly expresses absolute confidence that under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, India will continue to achieve new heights as a self-reliant, secure, prosperous, and glorious nation," it stated.

Modi expressed gratitude to his Cabinet colleagues and reaffirmed the government's commitment to collective efforts in nation-building.

"The journey towards a developed India would continue with greater vigour, guided by the aspirations of 140 crore Indians," the prime minister said.

This milestone comes as the BJP-led NDA government completes 12 years in power, with Modi entering his third consecutive term after being sworn in on June 9, 2024.

The resolution highlighted key policy achievements over the past 12 years, including the abrogation of Article 370, implementation of GST, One Rank One Pension (OROP), new criminal laws (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita), and the consolidation of labour codes.

It also noted strong actions against terrorism, surgical and air strikes, 'Operation Sindoor', suspension of the Indus Water Treaty, eradication of Left-wing extremism, peace accords in the Northeast, and resolution of the border dispute with Bangladesh.

India's enhanced global profile, including its G20 presidency, was also commended. The Cabinet resolution underscores the government's continued focus on development, reforms, and nation-building as it enters the next phase of governance.

Modi can't be compared with Nehru: Pawar

MUMBAI, DHNS: As Narendra Modi became India's longest-serving continuously elected prime minister, surpassing the record of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar on Wednesday said it was inappropriate to draw comparisons between the two leaders.

Addressing the 27th foundation day function of the NCP (SP) in Mumbai, the veteran leader said that Nehru's role in India's freedom struggle and nation-building was unique, and deserved enduring respect.

"There is an attempt to project that there is no leader like Narendra Modi because he has become the longest-serving PM. But Nehru's contribution to the freedom struggle and the building of modern India cannot be forgotten and must be respected," Pawar said.

Ram Temple 'missing money' row reaches PM; BJP leader seeks CBI probe

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Amid reports that the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is looking into allegations of 'missing money' from Ram Temple donations, a senior BJP leader has sought an investigation by the CBI.

Temple trust member and Ram Temple construction committee president Nripendra Mishra, who rushed to Ayodhya, didn't comment on the allegations, saying the issue concerns the temple management. However, according to sources, he held a meeting with the trust officials on the matter.

As per reports, around six people associated with the trust and the collection agency were being questioned in connection with the 'missing funds'. Neither the police nor the trust has confirmed the reports.

Reports also said that during the ongoing internal audit, it was found that the donation money appeared to be less, considering the number of devotees visiting the temple. It was suspected that the funds were siphoned off over a period of time.

The temple trust had earlier rejected reports that crores of rupees in offerings at the Ram temple were 'missing'.

Meanwhile, senior BJP leader Rajnish Singh wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking a probe by the CBI or any other central agency.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav had cited reports that crores of rupees received in offerings at the Ayodhya temple were missing, and demanded that the court take cognisance of the matter.

INTERVIEW

Huge difference in BJP's development delivery in Assam compared to Cong: Sushmita

Sushmita Dev, who just resigned from the TMC as well as a Rajya Sabha MP, speaks to ***DH***'s **Amrita Madhukalya** about the future course of action.

Why did you leave the TMC?

There are a set of reasons, some political and some personal. Winning and losing in elections happens in a democracy. So, it's not like I've left because Mamta Banerjee lost. Whatever has unfolded after the loss, the developments and the way I look at it right from May 4 till June 4, has prompted my decision. It is the best thing for me to do, given that my politics is in Assam. If I want to work in Assam, I can't work in the TMC. And that's why I met Dr Sarma (Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma). I had a very candid discussion with him. I met him in broad daylight after resigning and not in the middle of the night. I am hoping that he will give me a road map.

Sushmita Dev with Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma in New Delhi. PTI

Do you feel that you were underutilised in either Congress or TMC? And will the BJP give you a ministerial berth in Assam?

I come with no sense of entitlement. For the simple reason that it is not in my nature. And secondly, I would like to put on record that I have had a very nice, courteous conversation with the CM (Himanta). Nothing is certain; as we speak, I am in no party, and I am not a member of parliament either.

Your tenure is still left. In terms of just political work, what do you want to do?

I come from a region called Barak in Assam, which is the southernmost tip. I have myself been in politics for more than 30 years, and I have seen two consecutive governments led by the Congress. I have seen my father's (former Union Minister Santosh Mohan Dev) tenure, and I have seen the last 10 years of the BJP. The reality is we may not like their ideology, and people may criticise the BJP, but I don't think there is any government or any party in the world that is outside the scope of criticism. But I have seen a huge, remarkable difference in their delivery on development in Assam. It is evident in the last 10 years. My region, which is Bengali-dominated, was struggling because of the internal politics of the Congress, and the BJP has managed to break that shackle.

Are we looking at you in the BJP in the future?

For me to say yes is tough, as I've had one conversation... So, it is too premature for me to comment on that.

Insider job: MP BJP chief on RS poll nomination rejection

BHOPAL, PTI: Madhya Pradesh BJP chief Hemant Khandelwal on Wednesday described the rejection of Congress nominee Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha nomination as a case of "ghar ka bhedi Lanka dhaye (an insider can bring down an entire organisation)", suggesting that the setback was caused by someone from within the party.

He said the BJP doesn't govern Telangana, hinting that the information related to Natarajan trickled through the Congress camp.

"You are not attaching the documents to the form; you are submitting them to us. So this is the Congress party's mistake. Congress should explain why it did this," Khandelwal told reporters here.

Old sexual harassment case got Cong leader's RS nomination rejected

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Telangana Congress in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha nomination from Madhya Pradesh was rejected on Tuesday after she failed to disclose a pending court case against her in Telangana, opening a fresh flashpoint between the BJP and the Congress.

The case has its roots in a police complaint filed in 2022 by a former municipal corporator who had quit the TDP to join the Congress. She alleged that Congress leader Kumbham Shiva Kumar Reddy physically molested her, threatened her life, and subjected her to humiliation and defamation on caste grounds that she belongs to a Backward-Class community, while Shiva Kumar Reddy belongs to the Reddy caste.

Two FIRs were registered. The first, at Hyderabad's Punjagutta Police Station in May 2022, was filed under sections of the law covering rape and criminal intimidation.

Congress leader Meenakshi Natarajan looks on during a press conference after a meeting with the EC in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

The second, at Bengaluru's Cubbon Park Police Station in June 2023, carried the same charges, but also included Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code as well as Section 34, covering acts committed by several persons in furtherance of a common intention.

Alleging that the party did not heed her complaints, the leader approached the 4th Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court in Hyderabad in May 2025, filing a protest petition that named seven Congress leaders, including Meenakshi Natarajan and Telangana Congress chief B Mahesh Kumar Goud.

While the sexual assault allegations were directed squarely at Shiva Kumar Reddy, Meenakshi and the other named leaders were accused of failing to act on the complainant's grievances despite being informed of them.

The complainant specifically alleged that Meenakshi told her that action had been taken against Shiva Kumar Reddy, and that he had been suspended from the party, but that no suspension order was ever shared with her despite repeated requests.

US blocks Pak and China's bid to blacklist BLA, Majeed Brigade

UNITED NATIONS, PTI: The US has blocked a joint bid by Pakistan and China at the UN Security Council to designate the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Majeed Brigade as terrorist entities.

Islamabad and Beijing had, in September last year, submitted a joint proposal to the Security Council to blacklist the BLA and the Majeed Brigade under the Council's 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee. It is learnt that the US, France and the UK blocked the bid this month.

Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmed, had said that terrorist entities, including ISIL-K, Al-Qaeda, Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, the East Turkistan Islamic Movement, the BLA and the Majeed Brigade, operate from sanctuaries in Afghanistan, with more than 60 such camps serving as hubs for cross-border infiltration and attacks.

"Pakistan and China have jointly submitted to the 1267 Sanctions Committee a request to designate the BLA and Majeed Brigade. We hope the Council will act swiftly on this listing to curb their terrorist activities," Ahmed had said at a UN Security Council meeting.

Pakistan currently sits on the 15-member Security Council as a non-permanent member for the 2025–26 term, while China is a veto-wielding permanent member of the powerful UN body.

US sanctions Chinese nationals, entities over Iran weapons

We secretly helped over 100 million barrels of oil pass Hormuz: Trump

WASHINGTON, REUTERS/AFP

The US on Wednesday imposed sanctions on 11 people and entities, including several based in China and Hong Kong, for supporting weapons procurement by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and the Iranian military, amid continuing tensions linked to the West Asia conflict.

The US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control said nine of those designated were China- and Hong Kong-based individuals and companies that facilitated the procurement of weapons for Iran's military, as well as a Hong Kong-based company operating within Iran's clandestine banking network.

The US State Department also designated two companies and individuals based in Iran and Belarus in connection with Iran's conventional arms-related activities. The sanctions were announced as US President Donald Trump said the US military had secretly helped more than 100 million barrels of oil pass through the Strait of Hormuz after Iran largely closed the strategic waterway in response to US and Israeli attacks.

Vessels are anchored in the Strait of Hormuz, as seen from Musandam, Oman, on Wednesday. REUTERS

In a post on Truth Social, Trump said he had directed the US military last month to carry out a covert mission to support oil tankers and other commercial vessels transiting the strait. "Today, I am pleased to announce that this effort has resulted in more than 100 MILLION Barrels of Oil making its way through the Strait, and into the Open Market," Trump said, adding that more than 200 commercial ships had successfully passed through the route.

The US launched a military operation in May to escort commercial vessels through the Strait of Hormuz. The effort was later reportedly suspended and then resumed, although US Central Command previously denied reports that the Navy was escorting or assisting commercial vessels. The latest sanctions underscore Washington's efforts to increase pressure on Tehran while maintaining the flow of global energy supplies through one of the world's most important maritime chokepoints.

IAEA demands urgent Iran cooperation, access to N-sites

The United Nations nuclear watchdog's governing board on Wednesday approved a Western-backed resolution demanding that Iran immediately provide information on, and grant access to, its uranium stockpile and production facilities, AFP reports from Vienna. Iran's nuclear sites have been targeted in US-Israeli attacks, and Tehran's envoy to the United Nations in Vienna told AFP that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) vote would hinder talks with the US on ending the West Asia war.

Indian-American engineer co-founded rescue drone boat firm

WASHINGTON, PTI: Two crew members of a US Army Apache helicopter that went down near the Strait of Hormuz were rescued by a drone boat developed by a Texas-based company co-founded by Indian-American Vibhav Altekar.

The rescue operation, carried out by the drone boat Corsair, developed by Saronic Technologies, was the first-of-its-kind mission conducted by the US Armed Forces, which have used aerial unmanned vehicles for many years.

It was the first US rescue operation carried out by an autonomous surface vessel remotely piloted by a human operator, Central Command spokesman Captain Tim Hawkins said on Tuesday. The 24-foot-long Corsair runs on diesel fuel and can travel at speeds of up to 35 knots. It can carry a payload of up to 1,000 pounds and has a range of more than 1,000 nautical miles.

The company has a $392 million production contract with the US Navy for autonomous surface vessels. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, the company was founded in September 2022 by Dino Mavrookas, who served in the Navy SEALs for 11 years, and three others, including Altekar.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates (centre) arrives for a closed-door interview with the House Oversight Committee in Washington, DC, on Wednesday. AFP

Bill Gates tells Epstein hearing he 'never victimised anyone'

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates on Wednesday said that he "never victimized anyone" as he faced questioning from US lawmakers over his ties to late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, AFP reports from Washington.

Gates, one of the world's richest men and a leading philanthropist, was appearing before the House Oversight Committee for a transcribed interview about the disgraced financier, who died in a New York jail cell in 2019 while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges involving underage girls. "I never witnessed nor had any indication that Epstein was engaged in ongoing criminal conduct. I never went to his island, his ranch, or his Florida home. I have never victimized anyone," Gates said in prepared testimony to the closed-door hearing that was posted on his personal website. Gates described his meeting with Epstein as "a grave error in judgement" and added, "if the time I spent with Epstein lent him any credibility, I am deeply sorry." The panel asked Gates to appear after documents released by the Justice Department raised new questions about his contacts with Epstein.

Ukraine hits Russian energy sites

A series of long-range Ukrainian attacks hit targets deep inside Russia on Wednesday, part of Kyiv's efforts to raise the costs of the war for the Kremlin by striking energy facilities and military industries, , AP/PTI reports from Kyiv.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country's forces struck several military and energy infrastructure sites, including a military factory that he said supplied components for Russian drones and missiles. In a post on social media, Zelenskyy said Ukrainian FP-5 Flamingo long-range missiles had hit the facility in Cheboksary, located in the Chuvashiya region more than 900 kilometres from the front line. Russia's Defence Ministry said air defences downed 326 Ukrainian drones overnight.

Pope Leo XIV greets people at the Church of Sant Agusti, during his apostolic journey, in Barcelona, Spain,on Wednesday. REUTERS

Hong Kong charges 9 over blaze

Hong Kong authorities on Wednesday charged seven people and two companies with offences including manslaughter and conspiracy to defraud over the city's deadliest fire in decades, AP/PTI reports from Hong Kong.

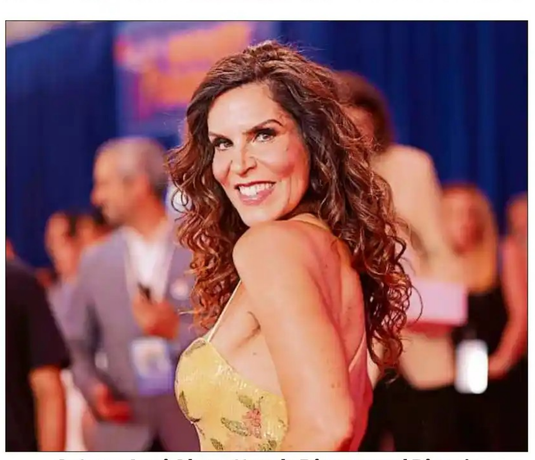
The massive blaze engulfed seven apartment buildings and killed 168 people on November 26, 2025. Former residents and relatives of the victims have been waiting for answers for months after the fire shattered the close-knit community of Wang Fuk Court, which housed thousands of people in the suburban district of Tai Po.

In a statement on Wednesday, authorities said police and the Independent Commission Against Corruption had charged the suspects with 25 counts.

Deep-sea whale graveyard found

Scientists have unearthed communities of marine life - including jellyfish, tubeworms and brittle stars - thriving on a millions-year-old whale graveyard, AP/PTI reports from New York.

These graveyards form when whale carcasses fall to the sea floor, becoming a sustaining snack for nearby critters. This one, located up to 23,000 feet (7 km) below the surface of the southeastern Indian Ocean, spans the largest area and is so far the deepest and oldest found. A whale's sheer size and the unique chemistry of its bones are the keys to forming these unique underwater neighbourhoods, said Xikun Song, a biologist with the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Deep-sea Science and Engineering.



Actress Lori Alan attends Disney and Pixar's "Toy Story 5" premiere at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles on Tuesday. AFP

Pakistan air strikes kill 26 in Afghanistan

Islamabad says it targeted TTP hideouts

ISLAMABAD, PTI

Pakistan on Wednesday said it carried out "precise and calibrated" overnight air strikes targeted at alleged terrorist hideous in Afghanistan and killed 26 people.

The affirmation by Information minister Attaullah Tarar came hours after the Afghan government said that Pakistan air strikes killed several people in an overnight attack. This is the third time that the two countries are engaged in armed conflict since October last year.

On Wednesday, Tarar said that in the aftermath of recent terrorist incidents in Pakistan, "precise and calibrated strikes were carried out along Pakistan-Afghanistan border areas on hideouts and safe havens of masterminds and planners belonging to Fitna Al Khwarij, killing 26 khawarijs."

Fitna-al-Khawarij is a term that Pakistan uses for the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

Among the recent terror incidents that Tarar listed was a terrorists' attack on Federal Constabulary post in Musa Dara on June 9; vehicle-borne suicide attacks on a military post in North Waziristan on June 2, and an attack on a police station in Bannu on May 9. "Based on credible intelligence, selective targeting of camps and hideouts was carried out with precision and accuracy. Four targets were completely destroyed including a training centre, a hideout & an ammunition cache and a Marakiz (hub) belonging to the Fitna Al Khwarij Commander Aleem Khan Khushali and Commander Akhtar Muhammad Jani Khel," Tarar said in a statement on X.

Earlier, the Afghan government said that Pakistan air strikes killed several people in the overnight attack. Afghan govt spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said early Wednesday that Pakistan's air strikes in Kunar, Khost and Paktika caused casualties.

People search through the debris of a house following an airstrike in Mani, Afghanistan, on Wednesday. REUTERS

Sri Lanka's ex-spy chief directed Easter attacks, says govt

COLOMBO, AFP: Sri Lanka's Public Security Minister told Parliament on Wednesday that the nation's former intelligence chief directed the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks, in the first official statement directly linking him to the bombings that killed 279 people.

Minister Ananda Wijepala said Major General Suresh Sallay, who was arrested in February on accusations of "aiding and abetting" the attacks, had identified a Catholic church to be bombed.

Sri Lanka's worst single terror attack against civilians involved bombings at three upmarket hotels in the capital, two Roman Catholic churches and an evangelical Protestant church outside Colombo. "Investigations have revealed that retired Major General Tuan Suresh Sallay conspired with and strategically directed Islamic extremists until they carried out the attacks," Wijepala said.

"Just three weeks prior to the attack, Sallay met Muslim men to obtain details of the location and the congregation," the minister added.

Sallay, through his lawyer, has denied any involvement.

Wijepala said Sallay was admitted to hospital on Sunday after launching a hunger strike while being detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Trump approves mega funding bill to boost immigration agenda

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI

US President Donald Trump signed a bill into law on Wednesday that gives his immigration and deportation agenda a nearly $70 billion boost for the remainder of his time in the White House.

The bill provides $38 billion for US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and $26 billion for the Border Patrol. An additional $5 billion would cover unforeseen costs, according to the White House.

Trump signed the legislation in the Oval Office a day after House Republicans pushed the measure through by a 214-212 vote over Democratic objections. His signature ended a nearly six-month fight over Department of Homeland Security funding that began with the shooting deaths of two US citizens, Alex Pretti and Renee Good, in January during federal immigration enforcement operations in Minneapolis.

Democrats began demanding changes to immigration enforcement after the shootings, creating an impasse and resulting in the longest funding lapse in the agency's history, which ultimately led Republicans to proceed alone on the measure.

The agencies will be funded through the next three years. The new law front-loads routine annual funding, ensuring a virtually uninterrupted flow of money as the Trump administration seeks to deport about 1 million people per year.

The legislation had become sidetracked over $1 billion for White House security, including Trump's proposed new ballroom, and a $1.8 billion fund to compensate allies who claim to have been victims of political prosecution. Both proposals became politically toxic and were ultimately scrapped.

The bill focused exclusively on immigration enforcement, a topic Republicans have treated as a defining issue between the two major political parties and one they hope will help carry the GOP to victory in November's midterm elections.

TOUGHER LINE

- Legislation provides nearly $70 billion to bolster immigration and deportation agenda.
- Passed by the House in a 214-212 vote, the bill ends a nearly six-month funding standoff and ensures immigration agencies are funded for the next three years as the administration aims to deport about 1 million people annually.

12 killed in South Africa shooting

JOHANNESBURG, AP/PTI: A group of armed attackers drove into a poor neighbourhood in South Africa's biggest city, got out of a minibus and opened fire on residents in a late-night attack in Johannesburg that killed 12 people and wounded at least nine, police said on Wednesday.

The attack unfolded late on Tuesday night in an informal settlement in the city's Cleveland suburb. Police said there were at least 10 suspected attackers who later fled the scene. Johannesburg has long been the scene of organised crime gangs vying for control of illegal mining and other activities, though police said the motive for the latest shooting was still under investigation.

Police said the shooters were dropped off at the settlement in a minibus and "moved through the area, opening fire on residents and community members.

Pak Army helicopter crashes in PoK; all personnel killed

ISLAMABAD, PTI

An Mi-17 helicopter of the Pakistan Army Aviation crashed near Muzaffarabad in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on Wednesday, killing all personnel on board, the army said.

"There were no survivors," the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the Pakistan military, said, without giving the number of those killed.

In a brief statement, it said that the accident occurred "during take-off due to a technical fault".

Rescue and recovery teams immediately reached the crash site.

A board of inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the exact technical cause of the accident.

President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq expressed grief and sorrow over the accident.

In separate statements, they extended their heartfelt sympathies to the families of those killed in the accident.

Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of the Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir and all ranks of the army "express deep grief over the tragic loss of precious lives and extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families", the ISPR said.

In September last year, an army helicopter crashed in Gilgit-Baltistan's Diamer district, killing five personnel.

In August 2025, a helicopter of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government crashed in the Mohmand district due to bad weather, killing five people, including both pilots.

US revokes hundreds of visas in crackdown on 'birth tourism'

WASHINGTON, PTI: The US on Wednesday said it has dismantled several overseas "birth tourism" networks and revoked visas of hundreds of foreign nationals who travelled to the country from Europe and Africa to give birth and secure US citizenship for their children.

The action is part of the Trump administration's broader efforts to curb what it describes as abuse of the US immigration and citizenship system.

In a series of posts on X, the State Department said US embassies in Europe, West Africa and North Africa uncovered organised networks that helped foreign nationals obtain visitor visas for the purpose of giving birth in the United States.

"We shut it down, revoked their visas, and permanently banned several fraudsters from travelling to the United States ever again," it said.

According to the State Department, a US embassy in Europe identified more than 400 suspected birth tourism cases since 2024, tracing them to at least six companies that coached applicants on visa interviews, arranged housing in the US and set up delivery plans.

Those networks were shut down, it said. The department said US missions in West and North Africa uncovered and moved to dismantle similar networks in their respective regions.

In one West African country, officials uncovered a sophisticated network involving over 100 foreigners using fraudulent documents and visa "fixers" to obtain visas and travel to the US to give birth.

Taiwan fires rockets in China's direction

TAICHUNG (TAIWAN), AP/PTI: Taiwan's military fired rockets in China's direction from "shoot-and-scoot" mobile launchers on Wednesday in a demonstration of how it might try to repel a Chinese attack.

While the US-supplied system known as HIMARS has been tested before, the latest live-fire exercise marked the first time its rockets had been fired into the waters of the narrow Taiwan Strait that separates the self-governing island from China.

"Due to the current enemy threat, we will continue HIMARS training with unwavering determination to protect Taiwan as the nation's strongest force," Army Sgt. Wang Ming-hui said.

Biz Bytes

M'rashtra MoU with US league for $1.2-bn plan

MUMBAI, DHNS: In a move aimed at positioning Maharashtra as a global healthcare and medical innovation hub, the state government on Wednesday signed an MoU with US-based Cleveland Clinic, Brookfield Asset Management and Arodhan Health City to develop the Navi Mumbai International MediCity (NMIMC), a large-scale healthcare, research and education ecosystem near the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA).

The proposed project will attract an estimated investment of $1.2 billion (over Rs 10,000 crore) and is expected to generate around 10,000 jobs. Spread across 250 acres, the MediCity will integrate advanced healthcare services, medical education, biomedical research, artificial intelligence, genomics and innovation under a single platform.

Eternal gets Rs 9.63 cr GST demand notice

BENGALURU, DHNS: Eternal, the parent company of Zomato, on Wednesday said it has received a Rs 9.63 crore demand notice for GST, along with interest and penalty, from the Andhra Pradesh tax authorities. In a filing, Eternal said it received an order on June 9, 2026, for the period April 2023 to March 2024.

Adjudication Order received on June 9, 2026, passed under Section 73 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, and Andhra Pradesh Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, for GST of Rs 6,48,72,000, with interest of Rs 2,49,53,504 and penalty of Rs 64,87,200, the company said. The demand order has been received with respect to short payment of output tax with interest and penalty thereon, it added.

Meta, Reliance to build AI data centre in Gujarat

Jamnagar chosen for access to renewable energy, water

"This world-class facility in Jamnagar will help us scale our AI infrastructure globally, while deepening our long-term investment in India's economy.
MARK ZUCKERBERG, Founder and CEO, Meta

"Jamnagar will become a landmark destination for hyperscale AI computing, and we are proud to partner with Meta to make this vision a reality.
MUKESH AMBANI, Chairman and Managing Director, Reliance Industries

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

In a major boost to India's ambitions of becoming a global AI and digital infrastructure hub, Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and Meta Platforms have announced plans to set up the social media giant's first dedicated data centre in the country at Jamnagar in Gujarat.

The project, with an initial capacity of 168 MW and scope for future expansion, will support Meta's global AI computing and digital operations, while reinforcing India's growing role in the worldwide technology ecosystem.

The facility will be developed by RIL and leased by Meta under a long-term arrangement. It marks Meta's first built-to-suit data centre investment in India and is expected to be operational within two years.

The announcement highlights the increasing importance of India in global technology supply chains, as multinational firms seek large-scale AI infrastructure, reliable connectivity and sustainable energy sources. Industry observers say the project could further strengthen Gujarat's position as an emerging destination for data centres and digital infrastructure.

Jamnagar was selected for its strategic advantages, including access to renewable energy, water availability, proximity to western submarine cable landing stations and connectivity through Jio's extensive fibre network. The facility will run on renewable energy and use desalinated seawater for cooling, reflecting a focus on sustainable operations.

Under the agreement, RIL will provide end-to-end services, including design, construction, utilities management, renewable power supply, network connectivity and operational support, positioning itself as a provider of hyperscale AI infrastructure.

Calling the partnership a "transformative moment" for India's digital ecosystem, Reliance Chairman and Managing Director Mukesh Ambani said the project demonstrates India's readiness to play a leading role in the global AI revolution.

"Jamnagar will become a landmark destination for hyperscale AI computing, and we are proud to partner with Meta to make this vision a reality," Ambani said.

Meta Founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg said the facility would help the company expand its AI infrastructure globally, while deepening its long-term commitment to India. "We're proud to be working with Reliance to build our first AI-enabled data centre in India. This world-class facility in Jamnagar will help us scale our AI infrastructure globally while deepening our long-term investment in India's economy," Zuckerberg added.

In 2020, Meta invested $5.7 billion in Jio Platforms, one of the largest foreign investments in India's digital sector. The two companies have since expanded collaboration across connectivity, digital commerce and AI initiatives.

Analysts say the latest investment reflects India's emergence as a preferred destination for next-generation AI infrastructure, supported by policy backing, expanding digital demand and growing renewable energy capacity.

KIADB to go digital: Minister sets 100-day deadline

Move expected to benefit farmers and industrial investors

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) is set to digitise every stage of its operations, from land acquisitions to the allotment of industrial plots. The move is expected to benefit all stakeholders, including farmers and industrial investors. Large and Medium Industries Minister MB Patil on Wednesday set a 100-day deadline for completing all work related to the digitisation initiative.

Speaking after the second departmental progress review meeting held at Khanija Bhavan, since the new government's formation, Patil said every detail related to plots in both old and newly-developed industrial areas across the state would be digitised under the Integrated Land Management System developed by the government's e-Governance Department. He added that as many as 77 data fields would be maintained for each industrial plot.

Preserving old records

Details related to plot allotments, their current status, industries operating on them, investments made, employment generated, compensation paid to affected farmers, court cases and timelines granted to investors will be available instantly through the digital platform. He explained that the initiative would not only eliminate the challenges associated with preserving old records, but also ensure that all information remains securely stored on a permanent basis.

Patil noted that in the past, inadequate record management had led to a few instances where compensation was paid twice for the same parcel of land. The new system, he said, would bring complete transparency and enable investors to access the required information from anywhere, eliminating the need for middlemen.

He directed officials to complete the scanning of plot allotment records in the older industrial areas within one month. The digitised data will then be shared with the e-Governance Department for the development of software tailored to KIADB's requirements. Subsequently, the system will be integrated with the Rural Development Department's e-Swathu platform. This will facilitate processes, including the issuance of e-Khatas and help streamline related services, he said.

Industries Minister M B Patil (R) with the officials of KIADB and industries department in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

PM to chair NITI Aayog governing council meeting today, DKS to attend

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to chair the annual governing council meeting of NITI Aayog on Thursday, which is expected to deliberate on issues impacting states' economy and development, and aligning them with the Centre's vision of a "developed India".

This will be the 11th meeting of the top decision-making body of NITI Aayog, which was formed in 2015 replacing the Planning Commission.

The majority of chief ministers and lieutenant governors are likely to attend the meeting, to be held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan cultural centre.

Narendra Modi

"I am attending the NITI Aayog meeting tomorrow. Issues related to Karnataka's interests will be raised," newly sworn-in Chief Minister DK Shivakumar told reporters in New Delhi on Wednesday.

Keralam CM VD Satheesan, Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy, Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu, Tamil Nadu CM C Joseph Vijay, and CMs of most other states have already reached New Delhi for the meeting.

This governing council meeting will bring together chief ministers and lieutenant governors to discuss the Inclusive Human Development Framework, anchored around four core pillars — foundational human capital and future-ready skills; productive employment, entrepreneurship and decentralised growth; health, nutrition and wellbeing; and equity and dignity for all, NITI Aayog said in a statement on Wednesday.

"Measures for promoting entrepreneurship, enhancing skilling, and creating sustainable employment opportunities across the country will also be deliberated upon in the meeting," it said.

As per the official statement, the governing council's discussions will also focus on collectively charting an implementation roadmap that leverages key enablers, including governance, Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), convergence, partnerships, and data-driven systems, alongside a structured mechanism to track short, medium, and long-term outcomes, ensuring accountability and measurable impact.

"A key thrust will be on aligning state visions with the national vision on Inclusive Human Development, reinforcing a unified and collaborative approach toward equitable and sustainable growth," NITI Aayog said.

Textile PLI Scheme: 96 firms approved

NEW DELHI, PTI: As many as 96 companies have been selected under the third round of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for textiles with a total investment commitment of Rs 12,822.67 crore and a projected turnover of Rs 58,294.18 crore, the Centre said on Wednesday. The textile ministry approved 22 new applicants under Round-3 of the PLI Scheme for Textiles, expected to attract Rs 2,339.14 crore in investment, generate Rs 15,561.34 crore turnover.

B'luru-based Exponent Energy raises Rs 200 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: City-based energy company Exponent Energy has raised Rs 200 crore ($21.1 million) in a round co-led by 360 ONE Asset and TDK Ventures. The round marks 360 ONE Asset's maiden investment in the EV space. The startup is building the rapid-charging backbone for India's commercial EV transition.

Arun Vinayak

The round also marks Hitachi Ventures' first investment in the energy sector in India. TDK Ventures, an existing backer, increased its stake through a follow-on investment. The round also saw participation from all of Exponent's existing investors, including Eight Roads Ventures, Lightspeed, 3one4 Capital, and AdvantEdge VC. YourNest, Exponent's first institutional backer, invested $4 million through its Continuum Fund.

The fresh capital will accelerate Exponent's expansion into new cities and new vehicle categories and deepen investment in R&D. With this raise, the six-year-old company has now raised $65.7 million in total since inception.

Sumit Jain, Head, Venture Growth Investments, 360 ONE Asset, said, "Exponent is solving the hard problems in commercial EV adoption — the balance between cost, practicality and ability for operators to access the incredible TCO advantage offered by the EV paradigm — all through its full-stack ultra fast-charging platform that spans both battery and a purpose-built charging ecosystem."

Arun Vinayak, Founder and CEO, Exponent Energy, said, "We pioneered rapid-charging globally and remain the leader in energy technology for CVs. Millions of charging sessions and three-plus years of field performance later, we have proven this isn't a lab concept—it's a road reality at price-points and reliability that matter."

This funding comes at a defining moment. The first five years were about building the core technology and proving that rapid charging works reliably. Exponent 2.0 is about leveraging that foundation to build a category-defining energy company for electric mobility, he added.

'Infy expects net positive benefit due to AI over medium-long term'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Infosys expects net positive benefit due to AI over the medium-long term, said JM Financial. The brokerage recently met with the company for an update on its business outlook and estimated revenue guidance for FY27 at 1.5-3.5%.

The first quarter of this fiscal is unlikely to exhibit similar strength sequentially as seen in Q1 of the last few years, largely due to slower volume pickup and a decent Q4FY26 base. However, seasonality remains in the first half versus the second half of the year, and Infosys would perform better in H1 than H2.

Infosys indicated an impact on the FY27E revenue of 75-100 bps due to one large European manufacturing client and further impact due to onsite reduction of 75-100 bps — both factored in the revenue guidance. FY27E margin guidance remains unchanged at 20-22%. "There is a 70 bps impact on margins due to the Stratus, Optimum and Versent acquisitions on a full-year annualised basis post-closure. Versent is not closed, and wage hikes are not yet decided," JM Financial noted.

It said overall market sentiment in BFSI remains positive, resulting in continued consumer spending across US banking, capital markets and Europe. Demand environment remains constructive, supported by a strong, large deal pipeline in the EURS segment.

STRONG GROWTH

India bright spot amid geopolitical woes: Tata Consumer chief

NEW DELHI, PTI

India continues to be a "bright spot" in the global economy despite geopolitical uncertainties, and offers "strong growth" as well as a very large market, even as consumer preferences and spending patterns are undergoing constant change, Tata Consumer Products Chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Wednesday.

Addressing shareholders of the Tata Group's FMCG arm Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL) at its 63rd Annual General Meeting, Chandrasekaran said the world today is being reshaped by geopolitical shifts, supply chain disruptions and realignments, energy transition and rapid advancements in AI.

This year started with developments such as the trade agreement with the European Union and finalisation of the framework for an interim bilateral trade pact between India and the US.

However, concerns over economic slowdown, weakening output and inflationary pressures resurfaced after the outbreak of the West Asia conflict late February, said Chandrasekaran, who is also the chairman of Tata Sons and Tata Group.

"In this backdrop, we are fortunate that India remains a bright spot in the world and continues to be the fastest growing major economy, primarily led by demographic strength, expanding physical and digital infrastructure, growth due to consumption and rising aspirations of the population," he said.

N Chandrasekaran

Chandrasekaran said changing lifestyles, new retail formats are emerging, digital commerce and particularly quick commerce are changing the way consumers consume, eat, drink and shop.

"TCPL is well-positioned in this scenario. Specifically coming to financial year 2025-26, the consolidated revenues in rupee terms grew 15 per cent to Rs 20,290 crore and the constant currency growth was around 12 per cent."

Chandrasekaran further said TCPL has completed its 'evolution' from being a tea and coffee company to "tea, salt and a multi-category FMCG company" offering a wide range of beverages and food products.

"The company has created a very strong foundation encompassing distribution, innovation, digital capabilities and brands," he said.

He said the company now reaches 290 million households across India and is leveraging its distribution network, innovation pipeline, digital capabilities and brand portfolio to tap emerging consumption trends.

The chairman noted that growth businesses, including packaged foods, pantry staples and ready-to-drink beverages, now account for 30% of the India portfolio, up from 26% a year ago.

He also highlighted the growing role of quick commerce, saying new-age sales channels now contribute more than 35% of the company's India business, although traditional retail remains central to its go-to-market strategy.

Integration of acquisitions such as Capital Foods and Organic India has expanded the company's addressable market, while investments in digital technologies and AI are being deployed across product development, forecasting, consumer insights and operational optimisation.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಫೋ: (0836) 2213838 Email: eedharwad@gmail.com

ನಂ.ಎಚ್.ಡಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ/66/07/02/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10–06–2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ/ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂಡಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ವಾರ್ಡ ಸದಸ್ಯರ /ಮಹಾಪೌರರ/ಉಪಮಹಾಪೌರರ/ಅಮೃತ 2.0 ಅನುದಾನ

1) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 48303/14.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 2) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 48787/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 3) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57163/22.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1 4) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57161/8.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 5) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53896/9.93 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 6) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54149/13.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 7) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54147/2.25 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 8) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 49139/2.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 9) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56116/8.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 10) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 12614/ 5.20 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 11) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 42526/27.35 ಲಕ್ಷ/ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 12) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56758/4.80 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 13) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56772/18.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 14) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57191/7.90 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 15) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57196/3.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ 16) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56117/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 17) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53145/18.45 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 18) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54075/15.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 19) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53571/25.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 20) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54626/4.10 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 21) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54158/5.11 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 22) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54141/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 23) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 51287/14.10 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 24) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54630/35.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 25) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 52884/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 26) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57259/25.20 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 27) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57258/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 28) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57647/11.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 29) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 55951/2.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 30) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53994/32.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 31) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53101/38.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 32) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53103/6.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 33) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53075/13.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 34) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54088/26.60 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 35) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 53901/25.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 36) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58004/34.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 37) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 52688/20.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 38) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 49066/7.27 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 39) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 49822/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 40) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54391/2.20 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 41) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 52551/3.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 42) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 52217/23.60 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 43) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54745/6.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 44) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56191/8.05 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 45) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 56152/12.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 46) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57360/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 47) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 49799/14.01 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 48) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 45595/3.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 49) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 45580/3.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 50) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 40807/10.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 51) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58587/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 52) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58588/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 53) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58618/1.72 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 54) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57694/2.58 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 55) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58692/13.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 56) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58736/4.30 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 57) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59201/12.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 58) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59361/34.62 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 59) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59358/25.22 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ. 60) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59347/25.32 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 61) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59346/70.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 62) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.55326/49.50 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 63) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.58352/25.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 64) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58353/25.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 65) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58361/30.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 66) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58378/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 67) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58380/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ. 68) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58951/6.22 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 69) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58995/36.48 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1 70) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58594/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 71) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58605/49.60 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 72) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58993/15.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 73) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58943/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 74) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58945/19.17 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 75) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58937/8.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 76) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58595/9.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 77) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58596/25.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ 78) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59404/31.90 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ 79) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59396/29.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 80) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59436/48.96 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 81) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59407/34.80 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ 82) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59442/12.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 83) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59437/15.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 84) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 59457/30.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 85) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54105/14.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 86) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54100/20.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 87) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 54610/10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 88) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57692/8.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 89) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 39876/15.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 90) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57956/5.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 91) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 57649/30.00 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ 92) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.DMA/2026-27/SE7670/47.72 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ 93) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ. 58722/703.21 ಲಕ್ಷ/ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ.

ಒಟ್ಟು 93 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.2236.94 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು ಧಾರವಾಡ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836–2213838 ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅ.ನಂ. 1 ರಿಂದ 93 ರವರೆಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12–06–2026 ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (1 ರಿಂದ 87 ಕ್ಕೆ) 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–06–2026 ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30–06–2026 ಸಂಜೆ 04.30 ಗಂಟೆ 3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03–07–2026 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆ

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (88 ರಿಂದ 92 ಕ್ಕೆ) 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20–06–2026 ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22–06–2026 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆ

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (93ಕ್ಕೆ) 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 13–07–2026 ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 14–07–2026 ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ 3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20–07–2026 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆ

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಧಾರವಾಡ/289/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2026–27

Stokes dropped over nightclub incident

LONDON, AFP

Ben Stokes

England captain Ben Stokes and team-mate Gus Atkinson have been dropped from the squad for next week's second Test against New Zealand at the Oval, the England and Wales Cricket Board announced on Wednesday.

The pair are currently facing an ECB probe for breaking a team curfew following England's win in the first Test at Lord's.

Joe Root will step in as interim captain in Stokes's absence.

"The England & Wales Cricket Board can confirm that, given the ongoing investigation, Ben Stokes and Gus Atkinson have not been made available for selection for the Rothesay second Test against New Zealand, which starts at the Kia Oval on Wednesday 17 June," said an ECB statement.

"Yorkshire batter Joe Root will lead the team as interim captain.

"Sussex fast bowler Jofra Archer and Essex batter Jordan Cox have been added to the squad."

The ECB announced on Monday they were looking into Stokes' involvement in a nightclub incident also involving Saracens rugby player Totoa Auvaa on Monday morning following England's 115-run win in the first Test at Lord's.

It is the latest controversy concerning the England team after the tour of Australia where the side faced allegations of a drinking culture during a 4-1 Ashes series loss.

A physical confrontation with Auvaa is understood to have led to a member of ECB security staff being struck.

Team management decided against promoting vice-captain Harry Brook, instead opting for former skipper Root to lead the side at the Oval.

Brook was fined and censured for late-night drinking and clashing with a nightclub bouncer before captaining England in a one-day international in Wellington in October.

BADMINTON AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Tanvi stuns Chiu

17-year-old Indian scores 21-12, 22-20 win over 5th seed; Sindhu cruises

SYDNEY, PTI

India's Tanvi Sharma shocked fifth seed Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei in the opening round of the Australian Open on Wednesday in Sydney. PTI FILE PHOTO

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu led a strong show by Indian women with an easy victory while teenager Tanvi Sharma pulled off an upset win in the women's singles competition at the Australian Open Super 500 badminton tournament here on Wednesday.

Third seed Sindhu, Tanvi, Malvika Bansod, Isharani Baruah and Tanya Hemanth all progressed to the round of 16, but it was a disappointing day for the Indian men with Kiran George, Tharun Mannepalli and qualifier Saneeth Dayanand bowing out in the opening round.

Sindhu barely broke a sweat in her opener, outclassing Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo Salazar 21-13, 21-11 in just 32 minutes.

Sindhu will next face compatriot Isharani, who fought hard to overcome China's Han Qian Xi 22-20, 10-21, 21-14 in a one-hour three-minute battle.

The biggest result of the day came from 17-year-old Tanvi, who upset fifth seed and world No. 11 Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei 21-12, 22-20.

World No. 36 Tanvi will now take on fellow Indian Malvika in the round of 16 after the latter recovered from a game down to beat Thailand's Tonrug Saeheng 15-21, 21-7, 21-13.

Tanya also joined the winning brigade, defeating Ishika Jaiswal of the USA 21-17, 21-18 in 39 minutes.

She will face world No. 8 and second seed Pornpawee Chochuwong of Thailand in the next round.

In the men's singles, George suffered a hard-fought 19-21, 21-14, 15-21 defeat to Malaysia's Justin Hoh in a match that lasted one hour and two minutes.

Qualifier Dayanand found the going tough against China's Hu Zhe'an, losing 8-21, 10-21 in just 35 minutes.

BTC hopeful of getting off-course licence soon

BENGALURU, DHNS: There has been some apprehension amongst race goers about Bangalore Turf Club's failure to get the licence to conduct off-course betting for the ongoing Mysore Summer Season but chairman L Shivashankar allayed any major concerns, saying the delay is because of the latest political developments and the club is confident of procuring the permission by the end of next week.

"There was an unfortunate delay in us getting the schedule of the Mysore races. Moment we received it, we applied for permission with the State Government. But that's when major political happenings occurred in Karnataka," Shivashankar told *DH*.

"There was a change in chief ministership which everybody is aware of. We have sent our request to conduct off-course betting to the new Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who also holds the finance portfolio. But he's been very busy since taking charge. We are confident, the honourable CM will approve our request as early as possible."

There is no trouble with on-course betting for the Bangalore Summer Season.

Suthar to play for Warwickshire

LONDON, PTI

Left-arm spinner Manav Suthar **(in pic)**, who starred in India's win against Afghanistan in the recent one-off Test, has signed with English club Warwickshire for the next two rounds of the County Championship.

Warwickshire on Wednesday announced the signing of Suthar on a short-term contract.

It said he will be available for selection for the next two rounds of the Rothesay County Championship -- the game against Yorkshire at Scarborough from June 12-15 June and the next fixture against Somerset at Taunton the following week.

Suthar, a left-arm finger spinning all-rounder, made his Test debut for India in the one-off Test against Afghanistan in New Delhi which ended on Monday, and announced his arrival on the international stage by taking six for 33 in the first innings and 1-29 in the second.

The 23-year-old Suthar has also taken 129 wickets in 29 first-class matches prior to his Test debut.

"We're delighted to welcome Manav to the Bears, at a really exciting time for the team. We've played some good red-ball cricket already this season, and Manav will bring a new aspect to our bowling attack," Warwickshire Performance Director James Thomas said in a statement.

"It shows how highly he's rated in India after his selection to their Test team last week, so it's going to be great to have him around the group."

Suthar will be hoping to make an immediate impact, as Warwickshire look to maintain their title push in the County Championship.

Gold Kite wins Amba Vilas Palace Trophy

MYSURU RESULTS

Golden Kite, trained by Aditya K and ridden by B Darshan Antony, won the Amba Vilas Palace Trophy, the feature event of the races on Wednesday.

1. The Arakal Gudu Plate Plate - 1100M: Stormrider (Ashhad Asbar) 1, Born Ruler (Brisson) 2, Pilot Officer (S Imran) 3, Mystical Eve (Koshi Kumar) 4. WB: 3, 3-3/4, 8. T: 1:05.96. TB: Vinesh V Naik. Fav: Stormrider.

2. The Chaitanya Chakram Plate (Div II) - 1100M: Feronia (Sah Farid Ansari) 2, Just Blues (Arvind Kumar) 2, Golden Beast (Shah Alam) 3, Fashionista (Lave Kumar) 4. WB: Shd, 1-1/2, 1. T: 1:07.38. TB: Rakesh. Fav: Just Blues.

3. The Malavalli Plate (Div II) - 1400M: Iron King (Ashhad Asbar) 1, Walter (Hindu Singh) 2, Natural Diamond (Ankit Pal) 3, Sheet Elegance (Darshan N). WB: 1-1/4, 3, 2 1-1/2. T: 1:25.53. TB: Zulquarnain. Fav: Iron King.

4. The Chaitanya Chakram Plate (Div I) - 1100M: Mr Karnataka (Mohd Talib) 1, Hasting Sunrise (Arvind Kumar) 2, Eagle Bluff (Ashhad Asbar) 3, Break Away (A Mhatre) 4. NR: Kingsland and Windborne. WB: 8-1/4, 2-1/2, 1-1/2. T: 1:06.29. TB: Ruban P. Fav: Purple Martini.

5. The Malavalli Plate (Div I) - 1400M: Red Hills (Ayaz Khan) 1, Cloudy Hills (Arvind Kumar) 2, Super Stride (H Rahul) 3, D Roman Reigns (Salman Khan) 4. WB: 1/2, 3-3/4, 1. T: 1:26.33. TB: Ashwin Rao. Fav: Gold Fame.

6. The Amba Vilas Palace Trophy - 1200M: Gold Kite (B Darshan Antony) 1, Rise Again (C Umesh) 2, Perfect Blend (B Nikhil) 3, Crown Drive (Aleemuddin) 4. WB: 1, 3-1/2, 1-3/4. T: 1:10.33. TB: Aditya K. Fav: Crown Drive.

7. The Bidadi Plate - 1600M: Chief Admiral (Aleemuddin) 1, Sada (Alex Rozario) 2, Golden Sabre (Sah Farid Ansari) 3, Natural Speed (Ankit Pal) 4. WB: 4-1/4, 1-3/4, 2. T: 1:38.83. TB: B Suresh. Fav: Sada.

8. The Kollegal Plate - 1400M: Klimt (Hindu Singh) 1, Red Falcon (Arvind Kumar) 1, Belgownie (Brisson) 3, Thalaiva (Shah Alam) 4. WB: Dead Heat, 1-1/4, 2-1/4. T: 1:25.11. TB: M Bobby and Suraj Shaw. Fav: Klimt.

Mysuru dividends

I race: Tote: Rs 13 (w) 10, 12, 11 p; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 35; Fc: Rs 39; Q: Rs 39; Tri: Rs 123 & 25; Exp: Rs 289 & 140.
II race: Tote: Rs 152 (w) 49, 13, 156 p; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 239; Fc: Rs 786; Q: Rs 134; Tri: Rs 26,265; Exp: Rs 27929 C/F.
III race: Tote: Rs 27 (w) 10, 14, 21p; Shp: Rs 34; Thp: Rs 58; Fc: Rs 84; Q: Rs 51; Tri: Rs 303 & 194; Exp: Rs 1559 & 570.
IV race: Tote Rs 30 (w) 12, 16, 11p; Shp: Rs 46; Thp: Rs 45; Fc: Rs 336; Q: Rs 279; Tri: Rs 1109 & 305; Exp: Rs 58,354.
V race: Tote: Rs 369 (w) 43, 12, 16 p; Shp: Rs 38; Thp: Rs 41; Fc: Rs 978; Q: Rs 514; Tri: Rs 32,567 & 4652; Exp: C/F.
VI race: Tote: Rs 75 (w) 18, 11, 14 p; Shp: Rs 30; Thp: Rs 63; Fc: Rs 421; Q: Rs 147; Tri: Rs 3882 & 2431; Exp: Rs 3319 & 948.
VII race: Tote: Rs 39 (w) 18, 10, 17 p; Shp: Rs 35, Thp: Rs 43; Fc: Rs 125; Q: Rs 61; Tri: Rs 328 & 239; Exp: Rs 3736 & 1448.
VIII race: Tote: Rs 13 & 43 (w) 15, 29, 12 p; Thp: Rs 53; Fc: Rs 121 & 121; Q: Rs 110; Tri: Rs 311 & 311; Exp: Rs 4620 & 4620 and 3960 & 3960. **Jackpot:** Rs 32,7653 & 17,553. **Mini Jackpot:** Rs C/F. **I treble:** Rs 603. **II treble:** Rs C/F. **III treble:** Rs 1029 & 1029. (There was no off-course betting in Bengaluru on Wednesday).

Richa's effort in vain as India lose final warm-up

LONDON, AFP: Richa Ghosh produced a breathtaking late assault but India's brittle top-order batting proved costly as Dani Gibson's sparkling all-round show powered England to a narrow five-run win in their final Women's T20 World Cup warm-up match here on Wednesday.

Richa Ghosh

After Harmanpreet Kaur opted to bowl, England rode on half-centuries from Amy Jones (64 off 45 balls) and skipper Nat Sciver-Brunt (57 off 45 balls) before Gibson's unbeaten 30 off just 12 balls lifted them to 171 for 6.

India's chase never quite gathered momentum as wickets fell at regular intervals, but Richa's stunning 68 off 36 balls nearly pulled off the impossible before left-arm spinner Linsey Smith (3/42) held her nerve to bowl India out for 166 in 19.5 overs.

Brief scores: England: 171/6 in 20 overs (Amy Jones 64, Nat Sciver-Brunt 57, Dani Gibson 30 n.o.; Shreyanka Patil 2-29) bt India: 166 all out in 19.5 overs (Richa Ghosh 68; Linsey Smith 3-42, Charlie Dean 2-16, Tilly Corteen-Coleman 2-22, Dani Gibson 2-17). **Result:** England won by five runs.

Karnataka Housing Board, District Planning Office, Raichur

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಗೃಮಂ/ಸಕಾಅ/ಜಯೋಕ/ರಾ/ದೇವದುರ್ಗ/ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ/94/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 08-06-2026

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT TO SHOW CAUSE [SCR, Order XXII]
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
CIVIL APPEAL NO. 10479 OF 2024

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ... Appellant(s)
VERSUS
YELLAMMA & ORS .... Respondent(s)

To,
EARANNA S/O RAMANA MALIGADDI
R/O DEODURGA, TALUK DEODURGA, DISTRICT-RAICHUR, KARNATAKA
(PROCESS ID:149710/2026)
(RESPONDENT NO. 4)

Whereas the Petition for CIVIL APPEAL above-mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by **Mr. E. C. VIDYA SAGAR,** advocate on-record, on behalf of the Appellant above named, was listed for hearing before the Court on **23rd July, 2024** and the Court was pleased to pass the following order:

"Delay condoned.

As recorded in the order dated 05.08.2022, the legal heirs of Respondent No. 3 are not traceable, hence, the legal heirs could not be brought on record. In view of the above, this Special Leave Petition stands abated qua Respondent No.3.

So far as Respondent No. 2 is concerned, his mother Respondent No. 1 is already on record. Therefore, deleting the name of Respondent No. 2, she is permitted to represent through his legal heirs. Amended memo of parties be filed within four weeks.

Leave granted.

It is informed that Respondent Nos. 4 to 7 have been served, but no one has entered appearance on their behalf.

Let fresh notice for final hearing be issued to Respondent No. 1 and 4 to 7, returnable in eight weeks. List the appeal for final hearing in the month of October, 2024."

AND WHEREAS, upon filing of an application for substituted service in respect of unserved Respondent No. 4 by Mr. E.C. Vidyasagar, Advocate, the matter above-mentioned was lastly listed before **Hon'ble Judge-in-Chambers on 25th May, 2026,** When the following order was passed:-

"IA No. 321607/2025

Delay condoned in filing the application.

Application for substituted service in respect of unserved respondent No. 4 is allowed."

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above matter(s) will be posted for hearing before the Court in due course when you may appear before this Court either in person or through an advocate-on-record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within thirty days from the date of publication of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why the appeal may be not allowed.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule VI of Order XXII, SCR 2013, within thirty days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than two weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the CIVIL APPEAL and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court against whose order the CIVIL APPEAL is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance, as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated: 02nd June, 2026 **Sd/- ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

Copy to :- **Sd/- ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**
1 MR. E. C. VIDYA SAGAR, ADVOCATE

Note:
[1] "LEGAL AID: Legal service of an advocate is provided by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee and the Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society to eligible Litigants.
For further information, please contact the Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee or the Member Secretary, Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society, 107-108, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block Near Post Office, Supreme Court Compound, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Tel Nos. 011-23116353,23116354 (Additional Building Complex) and 011-23381257 (Front Office)).
[2] MEDIATION: The facility of amicable settlement of disputes by trained mediators in cases pending in the Supreme Court is available in the Supreme Court.
For further information, please contact the Co-ordinator, Supreme Court Mediation Center, 109, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block-Near Post Office, Supreme Court Compound, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Tel No. 011-2307432).

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Zone-02
Bhashyam Park Road, Sheshadripuram, Banagalore-560020.

No: SADH/BCCC/ZONE-02/TENDER/PR/01/2026-27 Date:10.06.2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER(IFT)
(SHORT TERM) (Two Cover System)

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Zone-02, (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Maintenance of Parks in Ramaswamypalya, Ward No-01. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 598000.00, EMD : Rs.14950.00, Category : Others.**
2.	Maintenance of Parks in Jayamahal, Ward No-02. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1598000.00, EMD : Rs.19975.00, Category : SC.**
3.	Maintenance of Parks in Vasanthanagara, Ward No-03. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 923000.00, EMD : Rs.11538.00, Category : SC.**
4.	Maintenance of Parks in Sampangiramanagara, Ward No-04. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 7137000.00, EMD : Rs.142740.00, Category : Others.**
5.	Maintenance of Parks in Ulsoor, Ward No-08. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 4033000.00, EMD : Rs.80660.00, Category : Others.**
6.	Maintenance of Parks in Silver Jubli Park Ward, Ward No-32. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1305000.00, EMD : Rs.16313.00, Category : ST.**
7.	Maintenance of Parks in D V Gundappa Ward, Ward No-34. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 551000.00, EMD : Rs.13775.00, Category : Others.**
8.	Maintenance of Parks in Hombegowdanagar, Ward No-35. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1678000.00, EMD : Rs.20975.00, Category : SC.**
9.	Maintenance of Parks in BHEL Ward, Ward No-37. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1200000.00, EMD : Rs.30000.00, Category : Others.**
10.	Maintenance of Parks in Kanakanapalya, Ward No-38. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1352000.00, EMD : Rs.33800.00, Category : Others.**
11.	Maintenance of Parks in V V Puram, Ward No-41. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 618000.00, EMD : Rs.7725.00, Category : ST.**
12.	Maintenance of Parks in Sunkenahalli, Ward No-42. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 7115000.00, EMD : Rs.71150.00, Category : CAT-II(A).**
13.	Maintenance of Parks in Azad Nagara, Ward No-48. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 564000.00, EMD : Rs.7050.00, Category : SC.**
14.	Maintenance of Parks in Cottonpete, Ward No-57. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 1150000.00, EMD : Rs.28750.00, Category : Others.**
15.	Maintenance of Parks in Nehru Nagar, Ward No-59. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 5826000.00, EMD : Rs.116520.00, Category : Others.**
16.	Maintenance of Parks in Dattathreya Ward, Ward No-61. **Estimate Cost : Rs. 643000.00, EMD : Rs.16075.00, Category : Others.**

Calendar of Events : (1) Date of Notification : **10.06.2026, (2)** Tender can be downloaded from : **15.06.2026 (3)** Pre bid Meeting: **16.06.2026 at 11.30 AM (4)** Tender Closing Date : **22.06.2026 at 4.30 PM (5)** Technical bid opening date : **23.06.2026 at 11.30 AM (6)** Financially bid opening date : After Approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Zone-02, BCCC

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department Division, Haveri
Preponed E-Tender Notification - No. 01

Prepone for notification of this office letter No. 033/PB/Tnd/5054-3054-4059/2026-27/571/Dated : 12-05-2026 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal tender notification has been issued on Dte : 09-06-2026 for the following Work Sl. No. 8 (W.I. No. 35366) Last date for submission of tender receipt is assigned on Dated : **19-06-2026** (upto 4:00 PM) For further additional information, any changes & queries visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- (N.N.Patil)
Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Haveri
DIPR/Haveri/KSMCA/146/2026-27

:ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ:
Office of the Executive Engineer,Bagalkote Town Development Authority, Division No: 02, Bagalkote-587102.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08354–295372 E-mail: eebtda2@gmail.com

Tender Notification No:EE/BTDA/Dn.02/PB-01/Tender No:02/2026-27/640 Date : 09.06.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 02
(Through karnataka public Procurement Portal only)

As per the tender procedure of KTPP Act, tenders are invited by the under signed for various works from registered eligible contractors for various works Through karnataka public Procurement Portal ranging from Rs. 68.56 Lakhs to Rs. 143.21 Lakhs

The intending bidders for work details may login to karnataka public Procurement Portal website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for detailed notification and submission of the tender. The tenders can be submitted till 20.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM. Technical bids will be opened on 22.06.2026 at 11.00 AM (if possible) and financial bids will be opened on 24.06.2026 at 11.00 AM (if possible). Any other details can be obtained from this office in person or over telephone number 08354-297054

Note : Please note henceforth, any changes in calendar of events Corrigendum/ Addendum will be published in karnataka public Procurement Portal only and will not published in Newspaper.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-/84/KSMCA/2026-27 **BTDA, Division. No: 02, Bagalkote.**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಹಾಸನ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹಾಸನ
HASSAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, HASSAN (An Autonomous Institute under the Dept of Medical Education, Government of Karnataka) SRI CHAMARAJENDRA HOSPITAL CAMPUS, HASSAN
Website: https://himshassan.karnataka.gov.in/
Phone/Fax No.08172-231699, 231599,
Email:directorhims@yahoo.com
No :HIMS/TS/EQT/3/2026-TNDR-HIMS-HSNDate:08.06.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement only) https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

HIMS, Hassan, invites Re-tender for supply of Digital Mammography (With Buyback of Old Machines)to Radiology Department of HIMS Teaching Hospital, Hassan, from the manufacturer or authorized dealers in two cover bid system as per KTTP Act-1999. SL.No. 01.Department Radiology Equipment's Digital Mammography (with Buy back of old CT & X-ray machine) Qty 01 EMD(Rs.)2,40,000-00 The Supplier can have access to e-tender documents from 10.06.2026 through website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non-refundable) as fixed by e-portal. Last date for submission of tender application is up to 25.06.2026 5:00 p.m,. For further details contact the undersigned in the office during working hours or through website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Administrative officer, Hassan Institute of Medical Science, Hassan.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/211/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026–27

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE
Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O., Bangalore - 560 072.

No: ISEC/Reg/Estate/2026-27/1079 June 10,2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR HOUSE KEEPING SERVICES

Two separate sealed Tenders, viz., (i) Technical Bid and (ii) Financial Bid, are invited from the reputed Agencies providing Housekeeping services and registered in Karnataka for providing these services to the **Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru.** Interested agencies may down load the format from website **www.isec.ac.in.** Duly filled tender along with **EMD of Rs.27,000/-** (Rupees Twenty Seven Thousand only) by way of DD/Pay order of any scheduled Bank drawn in favour of **"The Registrar, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru",** should be submitted to The Registrar, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi PO, Bengaluru – 560 072. **Last Date for submission: July 3, 2026.** The pre-bid meeting will be held on **June 23, 2026 at 11:00 AM** in the Office of the Registrar, ISEC. **Tenders will be opened on July 6, 2026 at 3.00 p.m.** in the Committee Room. Interested Tenderers may be present while opening the tenders.

DIPR/CP/1086/Shirdi Sai/2026-27 **Sd/- Registrar**

Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Public Works, Department. SIRASI Division(U.K), Karnataka Telephone: 08384- 223164 Fax: 08384- 224100.
No. PWD/SR./Dn/AE/IFT/ 4059CMIDP/2026-27/782 Date:05.06.2026

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (SHORT TERM) KW-4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

(1) The Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Sirasi i vites tenders from eligible tenderers, for the construction of works detailed in the below. The tenderers may submit tenders for any or all of the works given in the Table. **The price tender which will be opened only if the Tenderer is found to be qualified to execute the tendered works. The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract. (26.03.2021)** (2.) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/index.seam** under login for Contractors: (3) Tenders must be accompanied by EMD Declaration form Proforma attached (4) Tenders must be electronically submitted (on-line through internet) with in the date and time published in e-procurement portal. The technical bid will be opened after prescribed time and date in the eprocurement portal, in the presence of the Tenderers who wish to attend at the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Department, SIRSI Division. (5) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.
(Total: 1 Work)
(1) Last date and time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **12-06-2026 up to 16.00.00** (2) Last Date and Time for receipt of tenders: **15-06-2026 up to 16.00.00** (3) Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid : **16-06-2026 @ 16.30.00** (4) Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid: **17-06-2026 @ 16.00.00**

DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/199/26-27 dt. 09.06.2026 **Sd/- Executive Engineer Public Work Department Division Sirsi (Uttara Kannada)**

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Parisara Bhavana, No.49, Church Street, Bangalore-560001
Phone : 080-25581383, Fax : 080-25586321

No. PCB/87/BLD/2025/2026-27/626 Dated: 21/05/2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER - CALL-1
(Through GOK e-procurement platform http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) invites tenders from eligible tenderers through GOK e-procurement platform **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** by The Member Secretary for the following work:

Name of the work: AMC for Housekeeping to KSPCB RSEO cum laboratory building and regional office building at Mangaluru (1 Year). Approx Value of the work: **Rs.17.95 lakhs**. All payments such as tender cost, EMD etc., shall be made in e-payment mode only.

For more details, please refer e-procurement web site: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in,

DIPR/CP/1092/AKAR/2026-27 **Sd/- CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER-2**

Our motto is to minimize waste generation through judicious use of natural resources

TEAMS: 48 VENUES: 16 TOURNAMENT SPAN: 39 DAYS

No Indian team in the World Cup, but there's some desi flavour

Few countries celebrate their successful expat population more than India. And there are plenty of them -- from entrepreneurs to scientists to academicians. There is a smattering of sportspersons as well. But never has there been such a noticeable presence of "desi" flavour in a FIFA World Cup. India sitting at No. 139 in the men's FIFA world ranking chart is enough to know that the national squad is nowhere near the World Cup which kicks-off today. But once again, the sentiment of 'one of our own' has overwhelmed many as four players – Sarpreet Singh (New Zealand), Nishan Velupillay (Australia), Samuel Moutoussamy (DR Congo) and Tahsin Mohammed Jamshid (Qatar) – with Indian origin will be part of the football extravaganza. Here is a look at the foursome with a local connection who are sure to earn a lot more followers from India in the next few weeks.

HITA PRAKASH
DHNS

Sarpreet Singh (New Zealand)

Under the initial tutelage of Hiroshi Miyazawa of Japan, Sarpreet Singh was born in Auckland to Indian parents in 1999. The attacking midfielder, who often plays as a winger, wore his maiden Kiwi national colours as part of New Zealand's under-17 squad at the 2015 Oceania Football Confederation U-17 Championship before competing at two FIFA U-20 World Cups (2017 & 2019). Having impressed on the junior circuit, Sarpreet became a part of the 'All Whites' - the senior men's NZ team - during their friendly match against Canada in 2018. His football journey that began in Wynton Rufer Soccer Academy as a seven-year-old, has taken Sarpreet to FC Bayern Munich to now land at the World Cup.

Tahsin Mohammed Jamshid (Qatar)

Trust a Malayali to be in every nook and corner of the world and there will be one representation at the World Cup too. Tahsin Mohammed Jamshid, son of parents originally from Kannur in Kerala, is 19 years old and a part of Qatar's World Cup squad. The left winger's tryst with football sprouted at the Aspire Football Academy in Qatar before being a part of several age-group national teams over the years. His steady rise with young legs will now be closely-watched and cheered on at the grandest global stage.

Samuel Moutoussamy (DR Congo)

With 57 caps for his national team, Samuel Moutoussamy was born in Paris, France with an Indo-Guadeloupean father and Congolese mother. Again, the traces of Indian heritage in the family tree has caught the attention of the most populated nation. The 29-year-old Moutoussamy made his debut for DR Congo in 2019 and the defensive midfielder will be hoping to throw in all his experience of playing at multiple clubs (notably FC Nantes with 144 appearances) in Europe and South America onto the fields across North America at this World Cup.

Nishan Matthew Velupillay (Australia)

Born to a Malaysian father of Sri Lankan Tamil descent and an Anglo-Indian mother, Nishan Velupillay is not your quintessential 'Indian-origin' pride. However, any sort of desi connection is enough to spur some interest. The winger made his international debut and also scored a goal for Australia during their World Cup qualifier game against China. The 25-year-old, born in Melbourne, has been a regular with the Socceroos after coach Tony Popovic took over in September 2024. "I guess it showcases the cultures we've got in this Australia squad, and it's a proud (moment) for my family," said Velupillay during a press conference on Tuesday.

Mexico seek a blazing start

Co-hosts kick off the biggest party of summer against South Africa

MEXICO CITY, AFP

Mexico will launch their home World Cup campaign against South Africa on Thursday under pressure to deliver the winning start fans expect at the Estadio Azteca, where the tournament returns for a third time.

The Group A clash marks a return to the World Cup stage for the iconic venue that hosted matches in 1970 and 1986, while also reviving memories of the 2010 tournament opener, when South Africa held Mexico to a 1-1 draw in Johannesburg.

This time, the hosts arrive as clear favourites and know victory could prove crucial to their hopes of finishing top of a group that also includes South Korea and the Czech Republic.

Mexico have gone unbeaten in their last eight matches, equalling the longest unbeaten run they have taken into a World Cup and providing further encouragement for Javier Aguirre's side ahead of the tournament.

The atmosphere is expected to be festive as more than 80,000 fans pack the renovated Azteca for the first match of the expanded 48-team tournament, but the occasion will bring its own pressure for a side expected to make the most of home advantage.

South Africa, meanwhile, are back at the World Cup for the first time since hosting the tournament in 2010 and coach Hugo Broos believes his largely domestically based squad can surprise more fancied opponents.

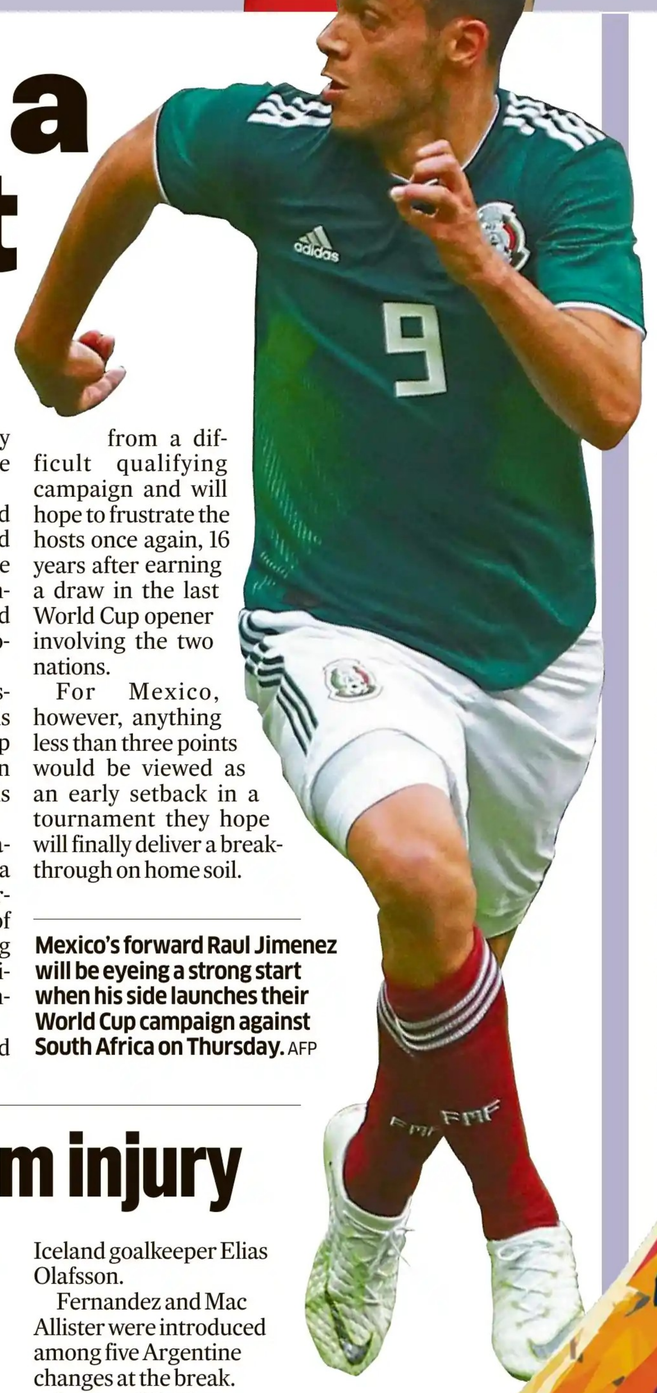
The Belgian, who faced Mexico in the 1986 World Cup, acknowledged the challenge posed by the opening-day atmosphere but said his players must remain focused.

"For us it will be a fantastic experience," he said. "It is very important that we keep ourselves to the game plan and don't listen to what is happening in the stands."

South Africa's preparations were disrupted by visa issues that delayed the arrival of several members of the travelling party, costing them valuable time to acclimatise to conditions in central Mexico.

Yet Broos's side emerged from a difficult qualifying campaign and will hope to frustrate the hosts once again, 16 years after earning a draw in the last World Cup opener involving the two nations.

For Mexico, however, anything less than three points would be viewed as an early setback in a tournament they hope will finally deliver a breakthrough on home soil.



Mexico's forward Raul Jimenez will be eyeing a strong start when his side launches their World Cup campaign against South Africa on Thursday. AFP

Neymar feels like a 'kid' at his farewell event

MORRISTOWN (US), AFP

Brazilian star Neymar said he feels like a "kid" ahead of what will be fourth and "final" World Cup, which could yet risk being derailed by a nagging calf injury.

The 34-year-old is a doubt for the start of Brazil's World Cup campaign and is expected to miss their tournament opener against Morocco in New Jersey on Saturday.

But Brazil's all-time record scorer is said to be "recovering well" and will hope to play a part for Carlo Ancelotti's side in the United States.

The five-time champions play Haiti on June 19 and face Scotland five days later in their final Group C match.

"Even though it's my fourth World Cup, it's a different feeling because of everything involved and, obviously, because it's the final one," Neymar said in a preview of the feature-length documentary "Vai, Brasil" (Go, Brazil), due to be released on Wednesday.

Neymar has been an integral part of Brazil's last three World Cup campaigns but there was some surprise at his inclusion this time as injuries have prevented him from playing for his country at all since 2023.

"I'm here feeling like a kid, like an 18-year-old going to his first World Cup," said the former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain forward. "I'm very proud, very happy to be here. I'm going to enjoy every second, every moment of this World Cup and I hope it will be special as well," he added.

Neymar made his World Cup debut on home soil in 2014 but was sidelined by injury when Brazil lost 7-1 to Germany in the semifinals. They were knocked out in the quarterfinals at the past two tournaments.

I'M GOING TO ENJOY EVERY SECOND, EVERY MOMENT OF THIS WORLD CUP AND I HOPE IT WILL BE SPECIAL

Neymar Jr

Messi dazzles on return from injury

Superstar scores as Argentina wallop Iceland 3-0

AUBURN (US), AFP

Lionel Messi **(in pic)** scored within minutes of making his return from an injury scare as Argentina beat Iceland 3-0 in their final World Cup warm-up in Auburn, Alabama on Tuesday.

Messi started on the bench as the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner is eased back to fitness after exiting Inter Miami's 6-4 win over Philadelphia with muscle fatigue on May 24.

He was joined on the sidelines at the start by Julian Alvarez, Enzo Fernandez and Alexis Mac Allister as Lionel Scaloni named an experimental line-up in front of an 88,000 capacity crowd.

Messi is set to feature in his sixth World Cup and allayed fears he may not be ready for the start of the tournament in a supreme 20-minute cameo.

Argentina begin their defence of the World Cup against Algeria on June 16 before also facing Austria and Jordan in Group J.

Iceland should have taken the lead inside the first few minutes when Mikael Egill Ellertsson blasted over with the goal gaping.

Instead the three-time world champions took an early lead.

Iceland could only partially clear a goalmouth scramble inside their box and the ball broke to Strasbourg defender Valentin Barco to fire into the bottom corner.

Nico Paz failed to make the most of his chance to shine in Messi's absence and wasted a big chance to make it 2-0 before half-time when his powerful hit was repelled by the face of Iceland goalkeeper Elias Olafsson.

Fernandez and Mac Allister were introduced among five Argentine changes at the break.

Lautaro Martinez was another to make his entrance at half-time and twice hit the post when he should have doubled Argentina's advantage.

The expectant crowd had to wait until the final quarter for Messi to make his appearance.

With his first involvement, Messi's brilliant pass played in Martinez, who was wiped out by Olafsson as he chipped the ball wide.

Messi made no mistake by slotting in his 117th international goal on his 199th cap.

Pandya ruled out of Afghanistan ODIs with quadriceps strain

MULLANPUR, PTI: Cleared to play just hours ago, India all-rounder Hardik Pandya **(in pic)** was on Wednesday ruled out of the three-match ODI series against Afghanistan after picking up a fresh quadriceps strain.

Pandya was at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru to get clearance for his back spasm injury which he sustained in the IPL while playing for the Mumbai Indians.

It is learnt that the new injury could be a result of him bowling the full quota of 10 overs at the CoE during the assessment.

The ODI series against Afghanistan begins on Saturday at Dharamsala followed by games in Lucknow and Chennai on June 17 and 20 respectively.

"With three weeks for recovery, there is absolutely no chance of him playing the ODI series as his rehabilitation will not be complete," said a BCCI source.

Pandya had missed quite a few games in the IPL for MI but returned for the team's last couple of matches.

The latest injury setback to the 32-year-old all-rounder comes at a time when he is being pushed towards playing more ODI cricket with next year's ODI World Cup in mind.

A left ankle injury to Pandya in the 2023 ODI World Cup altered the team's balance.

Deeksha flunks dope test again

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

India's 1500m national record holder KM Deeksha returned a second positive test for a banned substance for an out-of-competition test.

Deeksha had already been under provisional suspension by National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) since last week following an adverse analytical finding. At that time her in-competition sample, collected during the Indian Athletics Series 2 in Jaipur in April, tested positive for the banned substance Stanozolol, a synthetic anabolic-androgenic steroid. The same agent has been found in her out-of-competition sample taken in Bhopal in February.

The 27-year-old athlete is set to accept a reduced three-year sanction from NADA's Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel while she earlier considered to appeal after the first adverse analytical finding.

Deeksha, who set the 1500m national record at 4:04.78 in 2024, competed in just one event this season, where she returned dope positive. The UP-based athlete clocked of 4:25.74 at the meet, which was well below the Asiad and CWG qualification mark.

KM Deeksha is set to accept a reduced three-year sanction from NADA's Anti-Doping Disciplinary panel.

Sachin injured

Meanwhile, javelin thrower Sachin Yadav is battling an elbow injury that could rule him out of the Asian Games selection race. The 26-year-old athlete, who recently made his Diamond League debut in Rome, is unlikely to recover in time for the National Inter-State Championships in Bhubaneswar (June 24-28), the final selection trials for the continental event.

Sachin had impressed last season with a throw of 86.27m at the World Championships, where he finished fourth, ahead of Neeraj Chopra and Arshad Nadeem.

However, his recent form has dipped, managing only 79.07 while chasing the Commonwealth Games qualification mark of 82.61 at the Federation Cup in Ranchi.

While no Indian javelin thrower has breached the CWG qualification standard this season, selections remain subject to Athletics Federation of India's discretion.

Real part ways with Arbeloa

MADRID, AFP: Real Madrid confirmed on Tuesday that coach Alvaro Arbeloa was leaving the club, paving the way for the return of Jose Mourinho **(in pic)**.

"Real Madrid and Alvaro Arbeloa have reached an agreement to end his tenure as the first-team coach," a statement on the 15-time European champions' website read.

Arbeloa, who arrived in January to replace Xabi Alonso, had himself announced on May 22, just prior to the end of the La Liga season, that he would be leaving his post at the end of the campaign.

His short spell as interim boss was marked by an early exit in the round of 16 of the Copa del Rey against second-tier Albacete and several painful defeats in La Liga that ended Real's title hopes.

They were also knocked out of the Champions League in the quarter-finals by Bayern Munich as Los Blancos endured a second successive season without silverware.

The confirmation of Arbeloa's departure, two days after Florentino Perez's re-election as club president, is expected to speed up the return of Mourinho -- 13 years after his first spell at the Bernabeu.

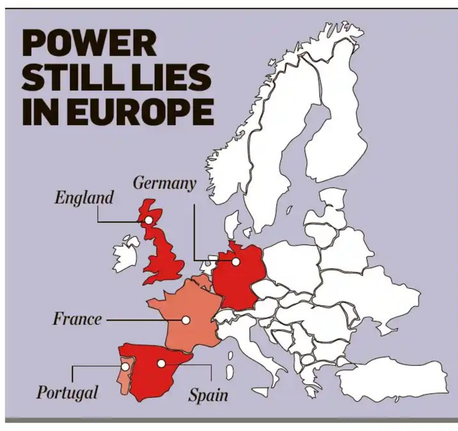
Bid for Alvarez rejected

Real Madrid said on Tuesday that Atletico Madrid had rejected the club's offer of 150 million euros ($173 million) for Argentine forward Julian Alvarez.

Printed and published by B A Ravi on behalf of The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, at The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, Plot nos. 7-12, Kumbalgodu Industrial Area, Bengaluru - 560 074. Executive Editor: K V Subramanya (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act). Editorial Office: 75, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. E-mail: editor@deccanherald.co.in. Phone: 080-45557333, Editorial: 080-45557279/080-45557280, Circ: 080-45557204, Advt: 080-45557163/080-45557164. Also printed at Hubballi-Dharwad, Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Davangere, Mysuru and Hosapete. © All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. RNI No 3608/57. Registered, Regn. No: KRNA/BGE/1027/2023-2025, posted at Bangalore PSO, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560 026. Website: www.printersmysore.com

TEAMS: 48 VENUES: 16 TOURNAMENT SPAN: 39 DAYS

POWER STILL LIES IN EUROPE



Europe's grip on the World Cup narrative remains as firm as ever even after Argentina broke the continental streak in Qatar 2022. The depth of the European powerhouse and the sheer talent pool across top leagues ensure the balance of power still tilts its way. Heading into 2026, the continent once again supplies the bulk of favourites, blending tradition with a new wave of match-defining stars. DH's Aditya K Halder takes a look.

Kylian Mbappe (France)

Few squads can rival the depth of two-time champions France with Kylian Mbappe leading a frighteningly talented attack. They are further backed by a midfield of power & endurance and a defence of physique & balance, making France perennial contenders. Also, this being head coach Didier Deschamps' final tournament adds emotional weight to an already driven group after finishing runners-up in Qatar.

Lamine Yamal (Spain)

Spain arrive as one of the most complete sides in the tournament. Exuding confidence of their Euro 2024 triumph, the Red Fury combine their traditional midfield mastery through Rodri and Pedri with explosive wing play led by Lamine Yamal and Nico Williams. Questions, however, linger over defensive consistency and the lack of a dominant No. 9 but their depth and cohesion make the 2010 champions title contenders.

World Cup in a divided world

The most popular global sporting event begins when the world is mired in one of the **most serious geopolitical crises** with two of the participating teams in the **middle of a war** which has hit countries' economies and polarised societies

MADHU JAWALI
DHNS

Olympics maybe the biggest congregation of countries at a sporting event, but the FIFA World Cup comfortably generates more interest and grabs more eyeballs. For 30 days, it will have most of world's undivided attention as billions follow the same matches, celebrate the same goals and share the same emotions. That's the appeal of the "beautiful game."

This time, however, that spirit of oneness is being tested.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup -- hosted jointly by the United States, Canada and Mexico -- begins at a time when the world is grappling with one of its most serious geopolitical crises in recent years. The war involving Iran, Israel and the United States has not only destabilised West Asia but has also divided opinion across continents. Economies have taken a hit due to short supply of oil and resultant price rise while societies have been polarised by convenient narratives surrounding the conflict.

US President Donald Trump (left) has got a free pass from FIFA chief Gianni Infantino who has maintained a convienient silence over former's actions, making a mockery of association's state motto.

The timing couldn't have been more striking. At a time when the World Cup is attempting to become more inclusive than ever before, the war is creating deeps chasms across the world.

For the first time in history, the World Cup will feature 48 teams instead of 32. The expansion means more nations, more players and more fans are now part of football's grandest stage. New regions are better represented and millions more supporters can see their national teams compete at the highest level further strengthening football's global reach.

The World Cup cannot escape these realities. The war is likely to cast its dark shadow throughout the tournament, whether through political statements, security concerns or discussions among fans. While the attention shifts to football, it's difficult to banish the conflict the minds of many as two of the participating nations -- the US and Iran -- are directly involved in the conflict.

Football, or any sport for that matter, cannot end wars or resolve geopolitical disputes. If anything, sport has been weaponised to settle scores between feuding countries. Look at the way American authorities are treating the contingent from Iran -- one of the top teams to qualify from Asia. From delaying visas to issuing derogatory statements against Iranian team to sending veiled threats, the US are doing everything in their capacity to demoralise a participating country.

Restrictions on visas to fans from several countries, exhorbitant ticket prices, increased travel fares and banning FIFA officials and subjecting players to through "scrutiny" by the hard-line administration in the US has caused must consternation among a cross section of stake-holders. It's a disgrace for the US as a host country while FIFA's silence over the humiliation of a participating country is stunning.

But then, the show must still go on.

As the first whistle blows in North America, the paradox is impossible to ignore. The most inclusive World Cup -- with one world, one beat as its unity anthem -- in history begins at a time when the world feels increasingly divided.

The tournament may not change the course of global events, but what it can do is create moments where people see one another not as political opponents but as fellow supporters of a shared passion. A stunning goal, a dramatic upset or a last-minute winner can generate the same joy whether one is watching in Asia, Africa, Europe or the Americas as the football's biggest stage will once again attempt to bring the world together, even if for a little while.

Messi's pursuit of more glory in swansong meet

SIDNEY KIRAN
DHNS

One of the most defining images of the 2022 World Cup in Qatar is when Lionel Messi planted a kiss on the FIFA World Cup trophy shortly after receiving the Golden Ball award. In a highly exalted career, where he'd won almost everything the sport has to offer — from multiple Champions League and La Liga trophies with Barcelona, a record eight Ballon d'Or honours, an Olympic gold and even the Copa America — there was one trophy missing from his humongous cabinet. Some critics felt the Argentine superstar, alongside his great rival Cristiano Ronaldo as the two finest players of this generation, warranted a World Cup to be considered as the absolute best in the company of legends Pele and Diego Maradona.

Messi chased and chased that elusive glory, and when it finally arrived following a breathtaking final against defending champions France in Doha, the relief was evident. The footballing world, often left gobsmacked by the Argentine's sheer genius and artistry on the pitch and humbleness off it, felt that could have been the last time they saw him in national colours. Messi was 35 then, and having been the star performer for the La Albiceleste with seven goals, including a brace in the final, it was the perfect stage to bow out on a high. It was quite possibly what one would call a fairytale exit; the King bowing out with his crown and sceptre.

The taste of the Holy Grail, however, can be very intoxicating, and even Messi was lured by it. Set to turn 39 this June 24, Messi, like he has always been, will be at the epicentre of Argentina's title defence in the Americas. Unlike four years ago when he was still at the peak of his powers and was based in Europe, Messi has cut down his playing time considerably after having moved based to Miami. So that begs the question: has Messi stretched his career in the quest for more?

The answer is a simple no. Despite Argentina now burgeoning with talent and no more heavily dependent on Messi's solo brilliance, the veteran emerged as the leading goal scorer (8) in South America's qualifying campaign where La Albiceleste finished on top of the group. Messi also led Argentina to a successful title defence of the Copa America in 2024 where they edged out Colombia 1-0 after extra time in a bruising final. "I love playing football, and I'm going to do it until I can't anymore," Messi had stated recently, reiterating his ambition of playing a sixth World Cup.

Unlike in the past, where Messi was the heart and soul of the team, orchestrating moves in the midfield and then finishing them at the front, the veteran now operates beautifully in tandem with a squad buzzing with talent and confidence. At midfield are two playmakers, Alexis Mac Allister and Enzo Fernandez, and workhorse Rodrigo de Paul; up front is exuberant Julian Alcaraz and seasoned Lautaro Martinez giving company to Messi. And they have Emiliano Martinez, the cocky keeper who possibly won them the World Cup with his exceptional save in the dying moments.

Messi's job now is to ensure all the talents on various areas of the pitch sing the perfect symphony. From being the composer for a vast majority of his career, his role could be that of a conductor now. And he has the perfect manager in Lionel Scaloni, the unassuming man with a knack for writing the lyrics for super hits. Having said that, concerns still linger over Messi's fitness after being plagued by hamstring issues.

Scaloni downplayed any major issues for arguably one of the greatest players ever to kick a football but fears do exist whether Messi, two short of 200 caps for Argentina, can recover in time for the biggest party of the summer starting on June 11. Answers will start unfolding from June 16 when Argentina kick off their title defence against Algeria in Kansas City.

Lionel Messi

"I'VE BEEN ENJOYING IT (WORLD CUPS). I'M HAPPY, SAVOURING EVERY MOMENT AND EXCITED AS EVER. IT'S A REAL WINNING TEAM THAT ALWAYS WANTS MORE.

TOP 10 STADIUMS

This World Cup will be played in 16 venues, with United States staging 11, Mexico three and Canada two. DH takes a look at 10 major stadiums.

NY, New Jersey

City: New Jersey, USA

Capacity

82,500

The stadium is a multi-purpose sports facility in East Rutherford, New Jersey. The venue was inaugurated in 2010 and is the home ground for New York Giants and New York Jets. It will also host the WC final.

Mercedes-Benz

City: Atlanta, USA

Capacity

71,000

The stadium is located in Atalanta, Georgia and was inaugurated in 2017. It is the home venue for Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta United FC. The stadium has hosted college football championships.

SoFi Stadium

City: Los Angeles, USA

Capacity

71,000

The stadium is a state-of-the-art sports facility located within the Hollywood Park complex in California. The venue was inaugurated in 2020 and plays host to the Los Angeles Rams and Los Angeles Chargers.

Hard Rock

City: Miami, USA

Capacity

65,000

The stadium is located in Florida. Inaugurated in 1987, it's the home ground for the Miami Dolphins and Miami Hurricanes.

AT&T

City: Dallas, USA

Capacity

80,000

The venue is ocated in Arlington, Texas. Inaugurated in 2009, it serves as a host for the Dallas Cowboys while hosting Super Bowl and Cotton Bowl Classic.

A	B	C
Mexico South Korea South Africa Czechia	Canada, Qatar Bosnia and Herzegovina* Switzerland	Brazil Morocco Haiti Scotland
D	**E**	**F**
United States Paraguay Turkiye Australia	Germany Curacao Ivory Coast Ecuador	Netherlands Japan Sweden Tunisia

Enjoy World Cup with

DH DECCAN HERALD

#	Date	FIXTURE	TIME	VENUE
1	June 12	**Mexico** vs **South Africa**	12:30 AM	Mexico City Stadium
2.	June 12	**South Korea** vs **Czechia**	07:30 AM	Guadalajara Stadium
3.	June 13	**Canada** vs **B&H***	12:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
4.	June 13	**USA** vs **Paraguay**	06:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
5.	June 14	**Qatar** vs **Switzerland**	12:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
6.	June 14	**Brazil** vs **Morocco**	03:30 AM	New Jersey Stadium
7.	June 14	**Haiti** vs **Scotland**	06:30 AM	Boston Stadium
8.	June 14	**Australia** vs **Turkiye**	09:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
9.	June 14	**Germany** vs **Curacao**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
10.	June 15	**Netherlands** vs **Japan**	01:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
11.	June 15	**Ivory Coast** vs **Ecuador**	04:30 AM	Philadelphia Stadium
12.	June 15	**Sweden** vs **Tunisia**	07:30 AM	Monterrey Stadium
13.	June 15	**Spain** vs **Cape Verde**	09:30 PM	Atlanta Stadium
14.	June 16	**Belgium** vs **Egypt**	12:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
15.	June 16	**Saudi Arabia** vs **Uruguay**	03:30 AM	Miami Stadium
16.	June 16	**Iran** vs **New Zealand**	06:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
17.	June 17	**France** vs **Senegal**	12:30 AM	New Jersey Stadium
18.	June 17	**Iraq** vs **Norway**	03:30 AM	Boston Stadium
19.	June 17	**Argentina** vs **Algeria**	06:30 AM	Kansas City Stadium
20.	June 17	**Austria** vs **Jordan**	09:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
21.	June 17	**Portugal** vs **DR Congo**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
22.	June 18	**England** vs **Croatia**	01:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
23.	June 18	**Ghana** vs **Panama**	04:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
24.	June 18	**Uzbekistan** vs **Colombia**	07:30 AM	Mexico City Stadium
25.	June 18	**Czechia** vs **South Africa**	09:30 PM	Atlanta Stadium
26.	June 19	**Switzerland** vs **B&H***	12:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
27.	June 19	**Canada** vs **Qatar**	03:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
28.	June 19	**Mexico** vs **South Korea**	06:30 AM	Guadalajara Stadium
29.	June 20	**USA** vs **Australia**	12:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
30.	June 20	**Scotland** vs **Morocco**	03:30 AM	Boston Stadium
31.	June 20	**Brazil** vs **Haiti**	06:00 AM	Philadelphia Stadium
32.	June 20	**Turkiye** vs **Paraguay**	08:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
33.	June 20	**Netherlands** vs **Sweden**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
34.	June 21	**Germany** vs **Ivory Coast**	01:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
35.	June 21	**Ecuador** vs **Curacao**	05:30 AM	Kansas City Stadium
36.	June 21	**Tunisia** vs **Japan**	09:30 AM	Monterrey Stadium
37.	June 21	**Spain** vs **Saudi Arabia**	09:30 PM	Atlanta Stadium
38.	June 22	**Belgium** vs **Iran**	12:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
39.	June 22	**Uruguay** vs **Cape Verde**	03:30 AM	Miami Stadium
40.	June 22	**New Zealand** vs **Egypt**	06:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
41.	June 22	**Argentina** vs **Austria**	10:30 PM	Dallas Stadium
42.	June 23	**France** vs **Iraq**	02:30 AM	Philadelphia Stadium
43.	June 23	**Norway** vs **Senegal**	05:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium
44.	June 23	**Jordan** vs **Algeria**	08:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
45.	June 23	**Portugal** vs **Uzbekistan**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
46.	June 24	**England** vs **Ghana**	01:30 AM	Boston Stadium
47.	June 24	**Panama** vs **Croatia**	04:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
48.	June 24	**Colombia** vs **DR Congo**	07:30 AM	Guadalajara Stadium
49.	June 25	**Switzerland** vs **Canada**	12:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
50.	June 25	**B&H*** vs **Qatar**	12:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
51.	June 25	**Morocco** vs **Haiti**	03:30 AM	Atlanta Stadium
52.	June 25	**Scotland** vs **Brazil**	03:30 AM	Miami Stadium
53.	June 25	**South Africa** vs **South Korea**	06:30 AM	Monterrey Stadium
54.	June 25	**Czechia** vs **Mexico**	06:30 AM	Mexico City Stadium
55.	June 26	**Curacao** vs **Ivory Coast**	01:30 AM	Philadelphia Stadium

TEAMS: 48 VENUES: 16 TOURNAMENT SPAN: 39 DAYS

Jamal Musiala (Germany)

For four-time champions Germany, this World Cup is about redemption after consecutive group-stage exits in 2018 and 2022. Julian Nagelsmann has overseen a revival built on fluid attacking play. Saying that, the 2014 champions' defensive frailties and recent tournament scars remain concerns.

Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)

Portugal carry both nostalgia and promise into 2026 with Cristiano Ronaldo's farewell World Cup providing a compelling narrative. However, this is far from a one-man team with Bernardo Silva, Bruno Fernandes and a new generation of midfielders dictating play. They boast one of their most balanced squads ever but the challenge lies in managing Ronaldo's role while ensuring tactical fluidity. If coach Roberto Martinez manages to strike that balance, Portugal can have title ambitions.

Harry Kane (England)

There is a familiar mix of hope and scrutiny surrounding England. Under coach Thomas Tuchel, the 1966 champions have embraced a pragmatic edge, leaning on a spine of stars like Harry Kane, Jude Bellingham and Declan Rice. Their qualifying dominance confirmed their potential, but recent displays have raised questions about creativity and tempo. However, they have the capability to go all the way.

Brazil face tough transition

The **Samba Boys** hope to end a **24-year World Cup title drought** and have pinned their hopes on the avuncular gum-chewing Italian **coach Ancelotti**, who has a reputation for fixing broken teams and title-winning credentials

SIDNEY KIRAN
DHNS

Every time a FIFA World Cup kicks off, the sentimental favourite for most neutrals is Brazil. The undying love for the Samba Boys, who mesmerised the world with their 'Beautiful Game' from the late 1950s to the mid-1970s, can still be felt despite them being no more the force they once were. From Kerala in the south to Kolkata in the east, or even the footballing neighbourhoods in Bengaluru like Gowthampura and Murphy Town, the passion for canary yellow and green is still very much intact even to the current generation who know very little of yesteryear Selecao greats like Garrincha, Jairzinho and Tostao. That's barring Pele whose popularity and fame transcends generations. The buzz is still very much alive for this edition too, but it's more of hope and prayers.

Brazil head coach Carlo Ancelotti

Since winning the World Cup for a record fifth time in 2002, thanks to the single-minded determination of Ronaldo, Brazil have gradually slipped down the footballing hierarchy. While they still keep producing players of pedigree, they have conceded a lot of ground to the Europeans, and scaling the peak in the Americas is going to be one Herculean challenge. To help them mitigate this arduous trek is why they've roped in master coach Carlo Ancelotti. Football, be it club or country, is replete with great coaches, and Ancelotti is among the elite. The avuncular gum-chewing tactician has won a record five Champions League titles — one of the toughest tournaments to triumph — and claimed league titles in Europe's big five: England, Spain, Italy, Germany and France. More than the trophies, what endears him, both to players and management, is his uber calmness and the ability to handle dressing rooms filled with massive personalities. The Italian also has a reputation for fixing broken teams.

Brazil isn't necessarily fractured, but what it lacks is confidence and direction. Having consistently lost to European opposition in knockout games, Brazil nowadays seemingly appear nervous on the big stage. Their football, which once was a template that coaches studied in depth and fans raved about, is jarring and disjointed despite the presence of some world-class talents. Take the South America qualifiers for example, where they won eight games, lost six, and drew four to finish fifth in the table with 28 points. That's when the Brazilian federation (CBF) decided to send an SOS to Ancelotti.

Rebuilding takes time, and sadly, that's not been at a premium for Ancelotti. The 66-year-old is aware of it, but if anyone can create magic out of nothing, it's him. He has hope at defence with Gabriel Magalhaes and Marquinhos forming perhaps the best centre-back pairing in the world, and Alisson Becker donning the gloves right behind them. There's fire in the front with Vinicius Jr, Raphinha and Gabriel Martinelli possessing the pace and finish. Where Brazil looks weak is in the midfield with no real big game to drive them forward.

The midfield is the beating heart of any team, the engine that transitions defence to attack. The lack of it is what could hurt them.

And they are in a group featuring Morocco, semifinalists in Qatar 2022, dangerous Scotland, and lowly Haiti. The road to recovery is as tough as it can be. The hope is the last time US hosted a World Cup in 1994, Brazil ended a 24-year wait for the trophy.

Marquinhos

Ronaldo: One last push for ultimate glory

ADITYA K HALDER
DHNS

A fairytale millions of football fans are quietly hoping for this World Cup is Cristiano Ronaldo finally lifting the trophy that has eluded him. At 41, in what is expected to be his sixth and final attempt, the idea of him bowing out with football's ultimate prize feels almost too poetic to script.

For a player who has built a career on relentless excellence, the absence of a World Cup stands out. Thirty-five major trophies — including five Champions League titles and league triumphs across England, Spain and Italy — paint a glittering picture. Yet, that one missing piece has always been ammunition for critics, especially those in Lionel Messi's corner.

Their rivalry, which defined football for close to two decades, seemed to find closure when Messi lifted the World Cup in Qatar in 2022. It felt like the final argument had settled. And yet, four years later, the story refuses to end with both icons still commanding attention and relevance far beyond most of their peers. That relevance isn't just sporting but deeply commercial as well.

Matches involving Portugal or Argentina have seen ticket demand spike dramatically, often inflating resale prices by over 200-300 per cent. While the broader tournament economy depends on multiple factors, the "Messi-Ronaldo effect" remains a key drive.

For Portugal, Ronaldo's influence goes even deeper as he remains not just their captain but a central figure in their footballing and commercial identity. His presence continues to draw attention, sponsorship, and narrative weight, making him valuable both on and off the field, even at this stage of his career. That dynamic, however, has recently raised eyebrows.

The Portuguese football federation's (FPF) recent commercial ties with a company linked to Ronaldo invited scrutiny. The federation has strongly denied any conflict of interest, insisting all compliance protocols were followed and the player had no role in negotiations. Amid all this, the bigger question remains sporting.

Does Portugal still need Ronaldo in a squad brimming with attacking talent? Even after the tragic loss of Diogo Jota, head coach Roberto Martinez has a wealth of options in Bruno Fernandes, Bernardo Silva, Pedro Neto and Joao Felix, who are all capable of leading the line or creating chances.

Behind them, a midfield anchored by the Champions League-winning duo of Vitinha and Joao Neves ensures a steady supply of opportunities. On paper, this is a team built for fluid, dynamic attacking football and doesn't necessarily need to depend on a 41-year-old striker. And yet, this is where Ronaldo's case becomes compelling.

For all their talent, none of Portugal's forwards — be it Goncalo Ramos or Felix — have consistently matched his instinct in front of goal. Ronaldo's ability to be in the right place at the right time remains his enduring advantage and his 25 goals in the last 31 international outings confirm that.

"We are talking about the greatest player of all time. He is here because he is still performing at a very high level, not because of what he achieved in the past," coach Martinez said during a press conference.

Martinez, known for his attacking philosophy, deserves credit for striking a delicate balance between keeping Ronaldo relevant and supporting the team's evolution. However, equal credit belongs to Ronaldo himself who has adapted his game to suit the realities of age.

Long gone is the explosive winger who could glide past defenders at will. In his place is a far more calculated forward, one who conserves energy, sharpens movement off the ball, and maximises efficiency inside the box. A slight shift in positioning, a delayed run, a split-second anticipation; these are now his tools.

Yet, for all the optimism, questions around his durability linger. The World Cup is unforgiving, especially in its latter stages, where intensity peaks and margins tighten, and to manage Ronaldo through that grind could be Portugal's biggest challenge.

Perhaps that is what makes this campaign so compelling. One last attempt, one final stage, and one more chance for Ronaldo to answer all the naysayers on the pitch.

FIFA WORLD CUP

Note: All timings IST.
Live on Unite8 Sports, Zee5.

G Belgium, Egypt, Iran, New Zealand
H Spain, Cape Verde, Saudi Arabia, Uruguay
I France, Senegal, Iraq, Norway
J Argentina, Algeria, Austria, Jordan
K Portugal, DR Congo, Uzbekistan, Colombia
L England, Croatia, Ghana, Panama

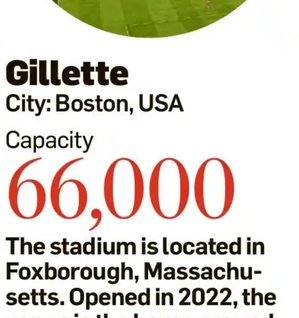
56.	June 26	**Ecuador** vs **Germany**	01:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium
57.	June 26	**Tunisia** vs **Netherlands**	04:30 AM	Kansas City Stadium
58.	June 26	**Japan** vs **Sweden**	04:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
59.	June 26	**Turkiye** vs **USA**	07:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
60.	June 26	**Paraguay** vs **Australia**	07:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
61.	June 27	**Norway** vs **France**	12:30 AM	Boston Stadium
62.	June 27	**Senegal** vs **Iraq**	12:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
63.	June 27	**Cape Verde** vs **Saudi Arabia**	05:30 AM	Houston Stadium
64.	June 27	**Uruguay** vs **Spain**	05:30 AM	Estadio Guadalajara
65.	June 27	**New Zealand** vs **Belgium**	08:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
66.	June 27	**Egypt** vs **Iran**	08:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
67.	June 28	**Panama** vs **England**	02:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium
68.	June 28	**Croatia** vs **Ghana**	02:30 AM	Philadelphia Stadium
69.	June 28	**Colombia** vs **Portugal**	05:00 AM	Miami Stadium
70.	June 28	**DR Congo** vs **Uzbekistan**	05:00 AM	Atlanta Stadium
71.	June 28	**Algeria** vs **Austria**	07:30 AM	Kansas City Stadium
72.	June 28	**Jordan** vs **Argentina**	07:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
ROUND OF 32				
73.	June 29	**2A** vs **2B**	12:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
74.	June 29	**1C** vs **2F**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
75.	June 30	**1E** vs **3 A/B/D/F**	02:00 AM	Boston Stadium
76.	June 30	**1F** vs **2C**	06:30 AM	Monterrey Stadium
77.	June 30	**2E** vs **2I**	10:30 PM	Dallas Stadium
78.	July 1	**1I** vs **3 C/D/F/G/H**	02:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium
79.	July 1	**1A** vs **3 C/E/F/H/I**	06:30 AM	Mexico City Stadium
80.	July 1	**1L** vs **3 E/H/I/J/K**	09:30 PM	Atlanta Stadium
81.	July 2	**1G** vs **3 A/E/H/I/J**	01:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
82.	July 2	**1D** vs **3 B/E/F/I/J**	05:30 AM	San Francisco BA Stadium
83.	July 3	**1H** vs **2J**	12:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
84.	July 3	**2K** vs **2L**	04:30 AM	Toronto Stadium
85.	July 3	**1B** vs **3 E/F/G/I/J**	08:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
86.	July 3	**2D** vs **2G**	11:30 pm	Dallas Stadium
87.	July 4	**1J** vs **2H**	03:30 am	Miami Stadium
88.	July 4	**1K** vs **3 D/E/I/ J/ L**	07:00 am	Kansas City Stadium
ROUND OF 16				
89.	July 5	**W73** vs **W75**	10:30 PM	Houston Stadium
90.	July 5	**W74** vs **W77**	02:30 AM	Philadelphia Stadium
91.	July 6	**W76** vs **W78**	01:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium
92.	July 6	**W79** vs **W80**	05:30 AM	Mexico City Stadium
93.	July 7	**W83** vs **W84**	12:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
94.	July 7	**W81** vs **W82**	05:30 AM	Seattle Stadium
96.	July 8	**W86** vs **W88**	09:30 PM	Atlanta Stadium
97.	July 8	**W85** vs **W87**	1:30 AM	BC Place Vancouver
QUARTERFINALS				
98.	July 9	**W89** vs **W90**	1:30 AM	Boston Stadium
99.	July 10	**W93** vs **W94**	12:30 AM	Los Angeles Stadium
99.	July 11	**W91** vs **W92**	02:30 AM	Miami Stadium
100.	July 11	**W95** vs **W96**	06:30 AM	Kansas City Stadium
SEMIFINALS				
101.	July 15	**W97** vs **W98**	12:30 AM	Dallas Stadium
102.	July 16	**W99** vs **W100**	12:30 AM	Atlanta Stadium
THIRD-PLACE PLAYOFF				
103.	July 18	**RU101** vs **RU102**	02:30 AM	Miami Stadium
FINAL				
104	July 20	**W101** vs **W102**	12:30 AM	New York, New Jersey Stadium

Gillette
City: Boston, USA
Capacity
66,000
The stadium is located in Foxborough, Massachusetts. Opened in 2022, the venue is the home ground for New England Patriots and the New England Revolution. The venue has also hosted international friendlies.

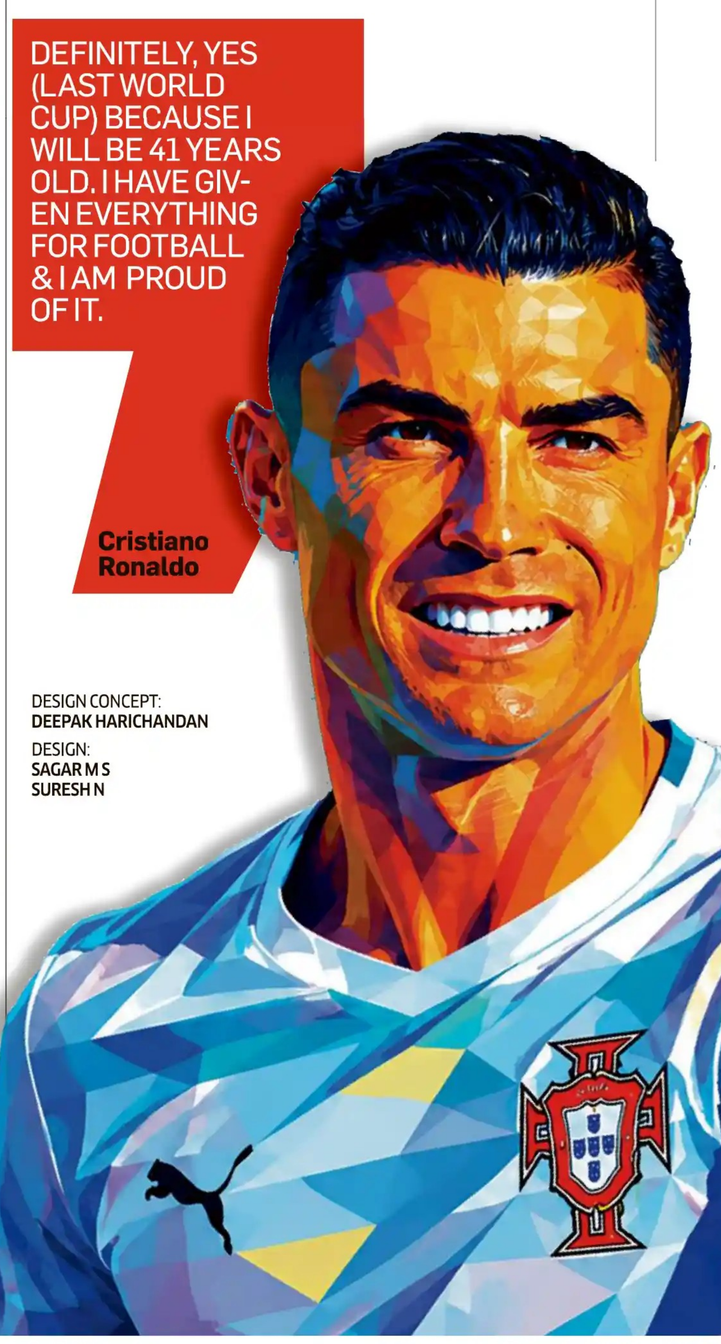
Arrowhead
City: Kansas City, USA
Capacity
76,400
The stadium is located in Kansas City, Missouri. Opened in 1972, it plays host to the Kansas City Cheifs. The venue has also hosted the Border Showdown between long-term rivals Missouri and Kansas.

Estadio Azteca
City: Mexico City, Mexico
Capacity
87,000
The stadium is located in Coyoacan in the southern side of Mexico City. Opened in 1966, the venue has hosted two FIFA World Cup finals in 1970 and 1986. It is the home ground for Club America in the Liga MX, top division in Mexican football.

Estadio BBVA
City: Monterrey, Mexico
Capacity
53,500
The stadium is located in Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon. Inaugurated in 2015, the venue hosts CF Monterrey in the Liga MX. The stadium has also witnessed international friendlies.



BC Place
City: Vancouver, Canada
Capacity
54,500
The stadium is a multi-purpose sports facility located in Downtown Vancouver. Opened in 1983, the home ground for BC Lions and Vancouver Whitecaps FC.


DEFINITELY, YES (LAST WORLD CUP) BECAUSE I WILL BE 41 YEARS OLD. I HAVE GIVEN EVERYTHING FOR FOOTBALL & I AM PROUD OF IT.
Cristiano Ronaldo

DESIGN CONCEPT:
DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

DESIGN:
SAGAR M S
SURESH N

MARUTI SUZUKI

NEXA

Electric is the future.

Experience mobility that is built for today and ready for tomorrow with a range of 543 km# and seamless charging access across the nation.

e VITARA

India goes electric

INDIA'S LARGEST** FAST-CHARGING NETWORK

543 km RANGE#

BHARAT NCAP ★★★★★ ★★★★★

5 STAR SAFETY RATING BNCAP

NEXA edge

60% ASSURED BUYBACK AFTER 3 YEARS

8 YEARS WARRANTY
• BATTERY: 8 YEARS
• VEHICLE: 3+5(PAID) YEARS

COMPLIMENTARY HOME CHARGER & INSTALLATION WORTH ₹ 50 000

SCAN TO CONNECT TO A SHOWROOM NEAR YOU

E-BOOK TODAY @ WWW.NEXAEXPERIENCE.COM

*₹ 10.99 lakh for e VITARA Delta. Battery EMI: *₹ 3.99/km (subject to financier terms). Taxes and statutory charges are extra. Applicable T&C available at the dealership. | **As certified by Kantar I MRB for an OEM platform for end-to-end usage as on November 28, 2025. | #543 km range: Certified range; actual results may vary by driving conditions and usage. | ADAS features are for driver assistance only. Driver is responsible for safe and attentive driving. | Always wear your seatbelt. | Mentioned ownership plan is for e VITARA Delta variant. Calculation is done assuming vehicle is running 60 km per day, excluding charging cost. Assured buyback plan is available on payment basis with the option of 3 years/45 000 km or 4 years/60 000 km ownership plans (whichever is earlier). The program is offered through an insurance company. e VITARA comes with standard warranty of 3 years/1 00 000 km with an option of extending the same on payment basis to 5 years/1 40 000 km and service activated coverage for 6th to 8th year for EV related components.